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Front Cover – Eastern Kingbird, Wallkill River NWR, *Orange*, 2 Sep 2022, © David Chernack.

Back Cover – Fork-tailed Flycatcher, Greig Farms, Red Hook, *Dutchess,* 17 Sep 2022, © Sean Carroll.

BANDING NORTHERN SAW-WHET OWLS (*Aegolius acadicus*) AT A FIELD STATION IN CENTRAL NEW YORK STATE

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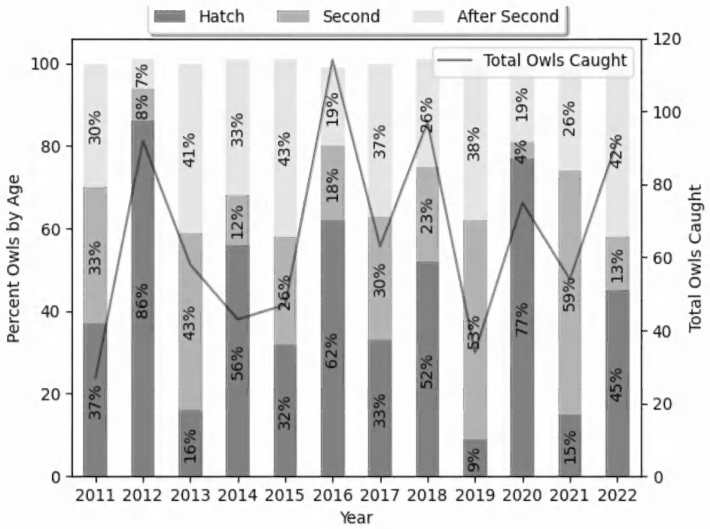
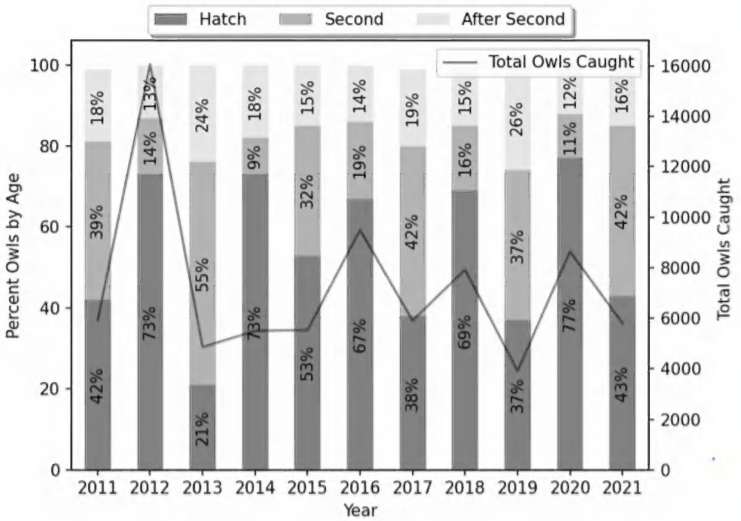
The diminutive Northern Saw-whet Owl (*Aegolius acadicus*), hereafter saw-whet, is secretive, usually silent, and rarely seen. Yet across North America about 15,000 of these owls are banded annually on their southward migration. This report describes 12 years of banding from Hammond Hill Owls (HHOwls), a small banding station in Tompkins County, about 11 miles southeast of Ithaca, NY. We compare demographic patterns for HHOwls to the total caught in North America (NA) east of longitude -87°.

The safety of our captured birds is paramount to us. We are ever aware of the living creatures in our hands. At HHOwls we also value the educational component of bird banding that equips others with the tools they need to be more aware of and proactive in aiding conservation efforts (The Uses of Marking and Recovery Data 2016; Why Band Birds? 2016). We work with people of all skill levels, and participation in the banding process, even as spectators, allows the audience to connect more deeply to the birds and their conservation (Pitkin 2006).

During the last 12 years, we usually opened nets from sunset to midnight on 14 to 17 nights yearly from late September to mid-November when weather was favorable, i.e., dry, cool but not freezing temperatures, winds with a northern component, and high barometric pressure. Banding effort was reduced in 2020 and 2021 due to Covid. Saw-whets were fitted with a USGS numbered aluminum band, weighed, measured for wing length, and aged before release. Hatch Year (HY) and Second Year (SY) birds can be recognized by their molt patterns. Older birds have a confusing mix of molt patterns and are categorized as After Second Year (ASY) birds, a multi-year group.

The number banded is highly variable from year to year (Figs. 1a, 1b). For HHOwls with similar effort each year, excepting Covid years, the average number caught in five peak years (95.2) is 2.0 times greater than the average in seven low years (46.6) (Fig. 1a). For eastern NA, the highest number caught in one year was 16,087 and the average of four peak years (10,533) is also 2.0 times greater than the average of seven low years (5349) (Fig. 1b). In these 12 years, HHOwls banded 797 Northern Saw-whet Owls, five Eastern Screech Owls (*Megascops asio*), and three Barred Owls (*Strix varia*). In addition, we captured 21 saw-whets that had already been banded at some other banding station. This provides a yearly average of 68.8 owls.





Figures 1a (top) and 1b (bottom). Owls banded at HHOwls and Eastern North America. Values within the bars depict the proportion of Hatch Year, Second Year, and After Second Year Northern Saw-whet Owls banded by year at HHOwls between 2011 and 2022 (Fig. 1a) and in eastern North America between 2011 and 2021 (Fig. 1b). The solid line depicts the total number banded.

A monographic study of Northern Saw-whet Owls (Rasmussen *et al.* 2008) reports that peak years occurred approximately every four years. In contrast, our data show that peak years for eastern NA occurred three times at a two year interval and only once at a four year interval. Peak years for HHOwls occurred four times at a two-year interval but only once at a four year interval. We also examined the BBL records for all saw-whets banded east of -87^0 latitude for 15 years prior to the start of HHOwls. Peak years occurred in succession at three-, five-, three- and three-year intervals.

The proportion of HY birds each year is highly variable for both HHOwls and for eastern NA (Figs. 1a, 1b). This is most likely due to a variation in the number of small mammals available during the nesting season because a high number of prey can lead to a high number of HY birds (Confer *et al.* 2014). A high proportion of HY birds in one year is echoed by a high proportion of SY birds the subsequent year. The average proportion of HY birds is 54% for eastern NA and is 43% for HHOwls. For both data sets the peaks in total number banded correlate with peaks in HY% birds in that year, excepting 2014. In that year both data sets had a proportion of HY birds more than 20% above the average, but neither data set showed a peak in number captured. A high total capture occurs only when there is a high proportion of HY birds, but a high proportion of HY birds alone is not sufficient.

Captures at our site showed a higher proportion of older birds than those from eastern NA as a whole in 10 of 11 years. The exception was 2012, when the proportion of HY birds was exceptionally high everywhere: HHOwls' highest and eastern NA's second-highest during the 2011-2021 study period. Further, in low years for HY birds, the values at our site were much lower than for eastern NA, with its much larger samples from a much larger area.

The recapture of banded birds reveals much about the movement and survival of these secretive creatures. At our longitude, most owls migrate along a north/south axis (Fig. 2). For example, HHOwls has exchanged five recaptures with Prince Edward Point Bird Observatory, a major banding station almost due north of us on the north shore of Lake Ontario. However, some owls show an east/west dispersal. We recaptured one owl banded along the shore of the Gulf of St. Lawrence and another owl banded along the shore of Lake Superior. These banding stations are about 800 miles apart east/west.

Of all the owls that were recaptured: seven were recaptured in the year they were banded, 13 owls were recaptured one year after being banded, six owls two years later, three owls three years later, and two owls four years later. Only one owl was caught five years after being banded and none at a greater interval. The decline in number captured over time reflects the survival rate of saw-whets. Owls caught one or more years after being banded probably had completed one or more round trips to a breeding location north of us. The movements of owls captured at our site are illustrated in an interactive map at:

https://sustainabilitymath.org/Owl5/Saw-Whet5.html

Between 1960 and 7 July, 2022, 375,057 saw-whet owls were banded in NA (Bird Banding Laboratory data base, or BBL). Of these banded owls, 8,939 have been recaptured once. BBL data show that more owls were banded in the range of -75° to -80° longitude, which includes HHOwls at -76° longitude, than in any other 5° increment across NA. Two-thirds of the owls banded in this range and recovered anywhere were recovered within this interval (Fig. 3). Only 30% were recaptured to the east or west, showing a prevailing north/south movement. An interactive graphic of such movements for NA can be reviewed at:

https://sustainabilitymath.org/Owl4/Saw-Whet4.html

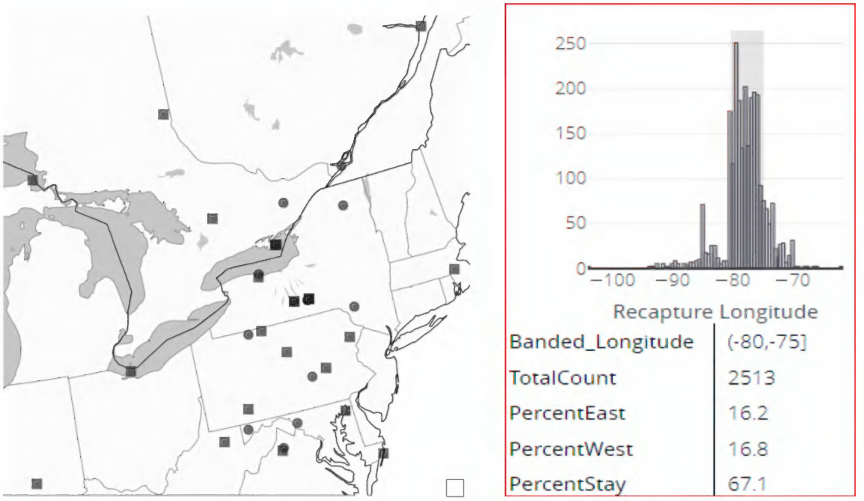


Figure 2 (left). HHOwls dispersal. The original banding location for owls subsequently encountered at HHOwls (squares) and for owls banded at HHOwls and subsequently encountered elsewhere (circles).

Figure 3 (right). Encounters of Northern Saw-whet Owls banded between longitude -75° and -80° longitude. The gray bar indicates the longitude range within which the sample was originally banded.

Over more than a decade of banding, HHOwls has experienced several extraordinary events. On one night we recaptured two owls we had banded. These simultaneous recaptures are by themselves unusual. But what is astounding is that both had been banded on the same night two years earlier. On another night, a Cornell student from Indiana was present when we recaptured an owl that had been banded in Indiana at a station he had visited. In 2022 on a night of major migration we had only four assistants on hand. On one net check, we found a Barred Owl in the net. Julia removed it and held it with both hands, while we

removed the saw-whets. Eventually one assistant had one saw-whet and two had two saw-whets each. As we removed the owls, three more owls flew into the nets. We turned off the audio lure and hurried up to the banding shed to get the carrying case, better-late-than-never. On another night, Julia was removing a bird when another owl hit the taut net next to her and trampolined out before landing on a branch. As she turned around to see the bird, her headlight temporarily blinded the owl, which she plucked off the branch. We are delighted to share our stories and our data on population dynamics with you. Hoot, hoot to you from HHOwls.

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A LIMPKIN (*Aramus guarauna*) ON THE NIAGARA RIVER

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A Limpkin on the Niagara River shore at Lewiston, Niagara County 9 November 2022 was the first for New York State, pending acceptance. It was seen by many observers, often feeding on non-native snails, through 18 November. Extralimital records of Limpkins north of their historical tropical and subtropical range have increased greatly in recent years, and this record was part of an unprecedented incursion throughout the eastern United States during 2021 and 2022. Given concerns over the bird's well-being, in combination with forecasts of freezing temperatures and heavy snowfall, the Limpkin was taken into care, transported to Delaware for further rehabilitation, and successfully released into the wild in South Carolina. The circumstances of this Limpkin's occurrence at Lewiston, and details of the many extralimital records in 2021 and 2022, are discussed below.

THE DISCOVERY

Tuesday, 15 November 2022, started like many fall days do for me. I was lake-watching from Krull Park in Olcott, Niagara County, on the shore of Lake Ontario, only three miles from my home. There was heavy overcast, the wind was light, and there was an excellent flight of Red-throated Loons (*Gavia stellata*). I tallied 514 before the rain started, which stopped the flight and sent me home.

I was content after having one of the best counts I have ever made of this loon when I sat down at my computer. Checking emails, I noticed one from Connie Adams, a friend who works at the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC). She often sends me photographs of birds to identify or confirm, which she gets from people she works with. The subject was "Bird ID" and the text was simply "What do we have here? Photo'd by my fishing buddy in Olcott I think." I clicked on the attachment. My eyes widened and pulse quickened. The photograph was of a Limpkin, walking around on cut grass with some dead leaves!

Immediately, I wrote back, asking for the precise location and when the picture was taken. Now having a sense of urgency, I decided to text as well. Connie quickly responded: the bird was not seen in Olcott, it was at the Lewiston boat ramp on the Niagara River, also in Niagara County. I still did not know when the bird was seen but I sent out a text alert to Western New York birders and headed for Lewiston. I was confused and had a sense that something was not right about this. I had seen Limpkins before and I associated them with wooded swamps and other wetlands. The habitat around the Lewiston boat ramp had nothing to attract a Limpkin, I thought. The Niagara River has steep banks, with essentially no shallows. Upon my arrival in Lewiston, three other birders were already looking. We searched the area for the next hour, not seeing any habitat which we

thought would be appropriate for a Limpkin and, disappointingly, not finding the Limpkin. I was fairly convinced that the Limpkin had made an inappropriate stop in Lewiston and, after finding no useful habitat, had simply moved on.

Two birders left and I texted Connie and asked if she could find out precisely where Frank Campbell, the fishing captain, had seen the Limpkin. She phoned me back. The first thing she said was that the bird had been there since Wednesday, 9 November—a week! Then she told me that Frank said that the bird hides in the weeds next to the harbor master building, which was right where I was standing while talking to her. I looked up at the weed-covered slope in front of me and almost immediately noticed some movement. After an initial jolt of excitement, I calmed down and reasoned that it was probably just a squirrel. I carefully lifted my binoculars while simultaneously trying to listen to Connie on the phone. I could hardly believe my eyes! "Connie!" I said, "I see it!"

We had walked by this spot probably half-a-dozen times without seeing the bird. Perhaps this was not that surprising because we were not anticipating that the bird would be hiding in the weeds! I sent out another text alert to WNY birders, confirming this thrilling find. I also texted Shai Mitra, who quickly posted the discovery to the New York State birding email list. Although frequently hidden in the weeds, the bird was seen by practically everyone who tried for it over the course of this and the following three days. It stayed in a 50 yard stretch of weeds at the base of a steep slope, only very occasionally wandering out into a small patch of cut grass, where Frank Campbell had captured his cell-phone image. I only know of the Limpkin being seen to fly once, when it was startled by someone slipping and falling on the stairs that go down the slope. The noise prompted it to take a short flight and land on the cut grass.

THE WEATHER AND THE BIRD'S WELL-BEING

The mystery as to why the Limpkin was staying in this area soon became apparent to anyone who watched it. It was feeding on an abundance of grove snails, *Cepaea nemoralis* (Susan J. Hewitt, pers. comm.; Wayne Gall, pers. comm.), also known as brown-lipped snail, which is a widespread nonnative species from Europe (Hotopp and Winslow 2012; US Dept. of Agriculture 2022). One only had to wait a few seconds while it was foraging to see it catch, crack open and separate the shell, and dine on a snail. The sense of most birders who watched it was that it was doing quite well, finding and eating these fair-sized snails quickly and with relatively little effort. Interestingly, while the bird usually preferred to stay mostly hidden in the weeds, it seemed remarkably tolerant of people. For the most part, birders were careful not to push the bird by getting too close and making it feel uncomfortable. By quietly staying back, birders found that the bird would sometimes come surprisingly close to them, seemingly unconcerned with their presence.

Although the Limpkin appeared to be eating well, there was concern among the birding community that it could soon be in trouble. The forecast was calling for a storm of historic proportions in the region. Although Lewiston was

forecasted to be north of the worst part of the storm, it was still going to get several inches of snow and much colder temperatures. The storm was prognosticated several days ahead of time and the forecast remained consistent for every day that the Limpkin was present. A wildlife rehabilitator was alerted to the likely need for rescue at some point. This person was Karen Slote of WildCare of Western New York and the Erie County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Karen observed the Limpkin multiple times and believed that she would be able to capture it with a long-handled net when it became necessary (Karen Slote, pers. comm.).

Not everyone agreed that rescue was necessary or even advisable. This bird appeared to be doing fine and eating lots of snails, which seemed to be easy for it to find. Why rescue a bird that appeared to be healthy? However, the history of vagrants to this part of the world at this time of the year has taught us that many individuals, especially those that come from warmer climates, are not well-adapted to handling our winter storms. An Anhinga in mid December of 2020, west of Rochester, NY, is one example. The bird was not doing well and it was eventually captured by a wildlife rehabilitator. Unfortunately, it soon perished in captivity. The decision to capture the Anhinga was probably made too late. Birds often do not fare well in captivity and it is best if a rescue attempt can be made before the bird is showing visible signs of distress or illness. So, on Friday, 18 November, just hours before the weather would take a dramatic turn, Karen and her team went to work. However, the bird was more wary than anticipated and it easily scooted out of reach of her net.

The next attempt to rescue the Limpkin was made by Wild Kritters of Niagara County, another wildlife rehabilitation group, early that evening. They put out a long net that stretched from the top to the bottom of the slope. They waited for darkness and Frank Campbell contacted the Village to have the public lights turned off, in order to make it harder for the bird to see the net. Then, they slowly walked toward the Limpkin until it went into the net, where they were able to catch it.

REHABILITATION AND PLANNING TO GET THE BIRD SOUTH

The Limpkin was now in the care of the rehabilitator, Karen Slote, who provided email updates, which I forwarded to the various birding email lists. Despite appearances that the bird was eating well, it was underweight at 815 grams, versus the average range of 900-1200. Karen's emails give some idea as to the thought and effort that goes into rehabilitating a wild bird: "Although he was calm and accepting of human presence when he was wild and free, the Limpkin's behavior changed quickly after his rescue on November 18. I needed to do everything possible to make him comfortable. I filled his enclosure with willow branches, grasses and artificial plants so that it resembled the natural area he had been living in. Normally, Limpkins eat snails; unfortunately, the apple snails they eat are invasive and not allowed in NYS – so I needed to find him an alternate food source. I offered him a variety of options, including mealworms, waxworms,

earthworms, krill, and small fish like smelt and minnows. Presentation was important too. Limpkins forage in the mud and shallow water for their food, so in order for him to recognize these foods, I hid them in shallow plastic bowls filled with water or mulch." Fortunately, Karen's efforts paid off and the Limpkin rapidly gained weight.

Karen wanted to get the bird to Florida but it was illegal to ship wild birds into Florida. She considered driving it herself to some other place down south but she soon realized that the long drive could easily prove to be too stressful for this very wild bird. She eventually decided to get the bird to Tri-State Bird Rescue and Research, one of the premier wildlife rehabilitation centers in the United States. They are located in Newark, Delaware, a midway point between Western New York and the south. Tri-State affirmed that they would care for the Limpkin and then would help it to reach a destination in the south. Now with a plan in place, Karen and her team readied the Limpkin, along with another rescued bird, a Virginia Rail, for the drive to Delaware. She used a soft-sided carrier that would make it less likely for the Limpkin to injure itself should it start to get nervous during the ride. She also gave it and the rail an anti-anxiety medication. The trip came off without a hitch. The rail was released into a Delaware marsh while the Limpkin was accepted for rehabilitation at Tri-State in preparation for it to be moved further south. On Thanksgiving day, 24 November, Tri-State released the Limpkin at Francis Marion National Forest in South Carolina. As soon as the carrier door was opened, it flew strongly out of sight into the swamp!

LIMPKIN SYSTEMATICS

Four subspecies of Limpkin are recognized (Bryan 2020): *A. g. pictus* of Florida, Bahamas, Cuba, and Jamaica; *A. g. elucus* of Hispaniola and Puerto Rico (formerly); *A. g. dolosus* of Oaxaca and Veracruz in southern Mexico, south to western Panama; and *A. g. guarauna* of central and eastern Panama south through much of South America to Argentina. The main differences between the subspecies has to do with size and the amount of white markings on the wing coverts. eBird (Dec 2022) combines the first three subspecies, which have varying amounts of white on the wing coverts, into the "*pictus group*", or Limpkin (Speckled). *A. g. guarauna* is Limpkin (Brown-backed). The latter is the smallest subspecies and it also lacks white on the wing coverts (Bryan 2020). The Lewiston bird is of the Speckled group, as are virtually all individuals in the United States.

RECORDS OF VAGRANT LIMPKINS

If accepted by the New York State Avian Records Committee, this will be the first record of Limpkin for the state (NYSOA 2022). Ten years ago, perhaps no one was predicting that a Limpkin would appear in New York some day. Even five years ago, few would have foreseen that possibility. But for a few months prior to its discovery on 9 November 2022, some astute birders were actually anticipating just that.

The reason for going from not even being on the radar, to expected, seems to be due to a nonnative invasive food source, the giant apple snail, *Pomacea maculata*. As a breeding species in this country, Limpkin has historically been restricted to Florida and possibly, the Okefenokee Swamp in Georgia (Wright and Harper 1913). Historically, they fed primarily on a native species of apple snail, *P. paludosa*, which is restricted to Florida and south Georgia (Bryan 2020). Since the giant apple snail was introduced and started to spread, the Limpkin has started to breed in states outside of Florida: Louisiana, Texas, Georgia, and possibly others. The new breeding sites are in watersheds where the giant apple snail has also been documented. Records outside of Florida are growing exponentially. For example, Limpkin has been recorded annually in Georgia since 2014, in South Carolina since 2017, and in Alabama since 2018 (eBird, Dec 2022). In Texas, the first state record was observed in May 2021. By the end of 2021, the state records committee had accepted 29 records with one such record involving at least 23 individuals! In addition multiple sites in Texas now have breeding records (Carpenter 2022). From the coincident expansion of the giant apple snail and the Limpkin, combined with the latter's fondness for apple snails, it is clear that the Limpkin is taking advantage of this nonnative food source. This has been verified by observation, with all breeding Limpkins found outside of Florida in recent years being in watersheds that also have the giant apple snail (Dobbs 2022, Minetor 2022).

Records of Limpkin really took off in 2021 and 2022 (eBird, Dec 2022). It was found in 13 states besides Florida in 2021, including provisional firsts for Texas, Arkansas, and Minnesota (Swick 2022). Although not in Swick (2022), West Virginia also recorded its first record in 2021 (West Virginia Bird Records Committee 2022). In 2022, it reached an astounding 23 states outside of Florida (records are from eBird, accessed Dec 2022, unless otherwise stated), and achieved provisional firsts for nine of those: Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, Wisconsin, and New York (Swick 2022). The year started with a few Limpkins north of Florida, in Mississippi, Georgia, South Carolina, Louisiana, and Texas. Historically, such wintering behavior outside of Florida was very rare. In April, northward movements were underway, with eBird records well north in Oklahoma, Mississippi, Alabama, and Georgia. May saw Limpkins pushing further north in Oklahoma, and there were sightings in Arkansas, Tennessee, North Carolina, and even reaching Missouri, Illinois, and Virginia. In June birds were reported in Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, Indiana, and Virginia. July saw reports from further north in Iowa and Indiana, as well as in Wisconsin. August brought birds even further north in Wisconsin, as well as Limpkins in Minnesota (Minnesota Ornithologists' Union Records Committee) and Michigan. September saw Ohio add a record and October added another for Michigan. The last far northward straggler in 2022 was the one in Lewiston, first seen by Frank Campbell on 9 November. A December Limpkin that appeared in Kentucky was also beyond its typical range, as well as a first for the state (Swick 2022).

Many people, birders included, assume that extralimital records of birds are usually due to the weather. The chronological accounting in the preceding paragraph, with northward movements detected in every month from April to November in 2022, shows that it is extremely unlikely for weather to be the main factor in producing these Limpkin records.

Birds disperse for many different reasons such as habitat change, food decline, temperature changes, to promote gene flow and avoid inbreeding, to keep from overburdening the currently established areas, and to expand the breeding range (Howell, *et al.*, 2014; Mueller 2020). Perhaps the wandering Limpkins are simply looking for areas that have their new favorite food source, the giant apple snail. A range map on the U.S. Geological Survey website (Benson 2022) shows the giant apple snail occurring from Florida to Texas and from Florida to South Carolina, with a disjunct population in Arizona. Except for the Arizona population and some populations in Texas, the snail is restricted to areas within roughly 100 miles of the coast. According to Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDOACS 2002), the snail does not inhabit regions where the temperature drops below 50° F in the winter months. Obviously, Limpkins are dispersing well beyond the current range of the apple snail. Whatever the reasons are that cause individual birds to disperse, the extreme distances that some individuals wind up travelling, such as the bird in Lewiston, indicate how risky for the individual such a strategy can be.

It is clear that Limpkins have been expanding out of Florida in recent years and that they are now breeding in new areas, areas that have an abundance of giant apple snails. The population of Limpkins at the northern extent of their new breeding range, in Texas, Louisiana, Georgia, and perhaps in Alabama and South Carolina as well, is growing rapidly. Exploring new areas to forage and breed may be a way for Limpkins to keep from overburdening the currently established areas, as well as to expand the breeding range.

Migrating birds are known to wander off course and overshooting is a frequent explanation for birds showing up further north in spring than they typically would. However, Limpkins are not considered to be migratory. In addition this was not just a spring phenomenon. As already noted, birds were discovered well north of range in every month from April to December in 2022. The Limpkin in Lewiston probably went too far, too late in the year, for its own well-being. It was rescued and transported to a warmer climate where it would seem to have a good chance to survive the winter. But even without the heroic efforts of the people who rescued this one individual, Limpkins appear to be thriving. We can speculate as to the cause of all these wayward Limpkins but it does not seem like a stretch to say that these extralimital sightings will continue into the near future, with additional records in New York seeming likely.

AGE OF THE LEWISTON LIMPKIN

Limpkin identification is relatively straightforward. No other species is very similar, although an immature White Ibis might be confused with them. The bill

on a White Ibis, however, is longer and much more strongly decurved, and the ibis lacks the obvious white markings in the brown plumage shown by a Limpkin. The many outstanding photos of the Lewiston Limpkin leave no question about the identification.

Ageing Limpkins is more difficult. Although Sibley (2014) depicts both an adult and a juvenile, the text provides no additional information. The adult is shown to have larger and more triangular white spotting on the upperparts than the juvenile. Birds of the World (Bryan 2020) states that "young birds can be distinguished from adults through the spring of their second calendar year by the white wing-markings that appear more streaked than the triangular markings of adults." The Lewiston Limpkin had some triangular markings as well as streaks, and photos of known adult Limpkins show a mixture of triangular and streaked markings. Can we assume, therefore, that it was an adult?

Shaibal S. Mitra has extensive experience banding birds, which requires a thorough knowledge of ageing, so I asked him for his opinion. Mitra referred to Pyle (2008) and noted that the Lewiston bird showed uniform remiges (primaries, secondaries, and tertials), which indicates that these were all juvenile feathers and that the Limpkin, therefore, was hatched earlier in the year. I scrutinized some of the better photos and confirmed the uniformity of these feathers. If the Limpkin had been older, it would have at least two generations of remiges, with older feathers appearing paler and more worn than newer ones. The triangular markings in the plumage, which appear on the scapulars and median coverts, likely are due to the juvenal feathers in those tracts already being replaced.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Frank Campbell deserves full credit for suspecting that the Limpkin was something unusual, obtaining a photo, and contacting Connie Adams of the NYSDEC. Connie promptly forwarded the photo to me, which allowed the identification to be confirmed and for many birders to enjoy this potential first state record. I would like to thank Patricia Lindsay for asking me to write about the Lewiston Limpkin for *The Kingbird*, as well as for her thorough review. Timothy Healy provided the very helpful link to first state records of Limpkin in 2021 and 2022, notified me of the explosion of records in Texas as well as the 2022 record in Minnesota, and provided other helpful comments. Shai Mitra evaluated the age of the Lewiston Limpkin and also made helpful review comments. Last but not least, the birding community owes a debt of gratitude to Karen Slote and the other wildlife rehabilitators whose time and effort resulted in the successful translocation of the Limpkin.

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NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS

A Remarkable Inland Specimen Record of Black-legged Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla)* from Albany, New York

Black-legged Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*) is a pelagic gull that breeds in coastal areas throughout the northern part of the Northern Hemisphere. In New York State they are winter visitors seen by ocean watchers on Long Island and those venturing out on boats well beyond our shores. Away from the coast, small numbers are reported each winter from large inland water bodies, especially Lake Ontario and the Niagara River area. They occasionally stray farther from large water bodies, as was the case for an individual that was seen by dozens of Capital Region birders this past September (2022) at The Crossings Park of Colonie, just outside the city limits of Albany, NY.

This bird was first seen (and photographed) on 8 September but was initially misidentified as a Bonaparte's Gull. On 13 September, the bird was identified as a Black-legged Kittiwake by Craig Driggs, who put the word out to the regional birding community. That same day it was seen actively feeding on small fish from the surface of the pond by dozens of birders (see Figure 1, page 46 for a photo of the bird in life). Many observers remarked that the bird did not appear healthy and even speculated that it may have a broken wing or other injury that prevented it from flying, even when approached closely. The following morning, it was clear to all observers that the bird, standing on the shore with its eyes closed, was sick or injured. It managed to take to the water, but after a few minutes hung its head underwater and drowned. My physical examination of the salvaged bird did not reveal any apparent injury or broken bones and so the bird was taken to the nearby NYSDEC Wildlife Pathology Lab where it was swabbed and tested for avian influenza. The test failed to detect an influenza infection. During specimen preparation, I found no internal injuries or macroscopic parasite infections. The bird was an adult female (no bursa of Fabricius, fully ossified skull, ovary 12mm x 3 mm). The stomach was empty and the bird was slightly emaciated (223.5 g). The lungs were saturated with watery fluid.

This record is unusual because it is a first for this species in Albany County, because the bird was an adult, and because it's the first known specimen from New York State since the 24 October 1999 specimen: a partial skeleton and spread wing preserved by the Cornell University Museum of Vertebrates (CUMV 49275) from a badly decomposed bird found on the Lake Ontario shore at Fair Haven Beach State Park. The 2022 Albany specimen is preserved at the New York State Museum (NYSM 19750) and is the first from New York with associated frozen tissue samples for genomic analyses (Figure 2). It's the second report of any kind of Black-legged Kittiwake for *Kingbird* Region 8.

Figure 2. Study skin and spread wing of NYSM 19750, a Black-legged Kittiwake salvaged from a small pond in a city park in Albany, NY, on 14 September 2022. This adult specimen documents the recent replacement of inner primaries P1-6, with P7 still in sheath, and P8-10 badly worn and yet to be replaced. A partial skeleton and a frozen tissue sample for genomic analyses were also preserved from this specimen.

Specimen and other records from inland New York—DeKay's (1844) short species account does not mention any inland records, only stating that "this species is more abundant on the shores of Rhode Island and Massachusetts than on this coast." Eaton (1910) regarded it as a common late-fall migrant and winter visitor to the Long Island coast, but also as "apparently rare on the inland waters of the State", noting specimens from Auburn in Cayuga County, on 4 January 1854 (citing Hopkins 1856); Oak Orchard in Orleans County on 10 April 1881; and from Oneida Lake in Oswego County on 9 November 1890 (Bagg 1894). John Bull (1974) noted that none of the three inland specimens listed by Eaton were extant, and listed eight additional inland specimen records, all immatures except one, taken between 1959 and 1967, and all collected or salvaged from the Lake Ontario-Niagara River area between 3 September and 10 January. Two inland state records from 1968 are the first reports away from the Great Lakes: an immature bird (black-tipped tail, black angular pattern on wing) seen flying up the Hudson River north of Castleton on 15 March (first record for *Kingbird* Region 8; Bundy 1968), and an immature bird photographed on Seneca Lake on 31 December (Walsh 1969).

A kittiwake in the hand is still a remarkable event anywhere in New York, but in recent decades well-documented observation records of Black-legged

Kittiwakes from the Great Lakes and Niagara Frontier have become an almost annual occurrence. In 1980, well before the eBird era began, NYSARC announced that it would no longer review reports of Black-legged Kittiwake from upstate New York. Inland New York winter sightings reported on eBird include birds seen on Oneida Lake in 1976, The Hudson River at Cornwall Bay in Orange County in 1981, and on Cayuga Lake and nearby Dryden Lake in 2002. Kittiwakes were subsequently seen on Cayuga Lake in 2007, 2011, 2012, Onondaga Lake in 2017, Seneca Lake in 2021, and on Oneida Lake in 2013 and 2021. In 2022 Black-legged Kittiwakes were seen on Cayuga Lake, the New York side of Lake Champlain at Willsboro Point in Essex County, the Cannonsville Reservoir in Delaware County, and the Hudson River at Beacon in Dutchess County.

More remarkable than the recent surge in winter sightings throughout New York are the recent reports from 3 May 2023: First seven adults were seen flying in tandem over Lake Champlain just south of Ticonderoga in Washington County, then two adults about 20 miles further north at Port Henry in Essex County, and later in the afternoon on Lake Clear near Saranac Lake in Franklin County. On 7 May a lingering adult kittiwake was photographed at Crown Point, across Bulwagga Bay from Port Henry. Are we experiencing surge of inland Black-legged Kittiwake vagrancy, or are birders of the eBird era more alert to the possibility of a Black-legged Kittiwake wandering about, fraternizing with our less pelagic gull species?

My thanks to Zach Schwartz-Weinstein for assisting with the salvage of the kittiwake specimen and for alerting me to the 1968 Region 8 Kittiwake report in *The Kingbird*.

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PATCH BIRDING CROTON POINT PARK

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When I was a child, already fascinated by birds but stuck growing up in a residential neighborhood in Brooklyn, I had a plan: I would invent a portal that could carry me to all the places I dreamed of visiting. With just a single step, I'd travel to rainforests filled with colorful tanagers and toucans, vast savannas stalked by ostriches and other bizarre birds, and open oceans skimmed by albatrosses and shearwaters.

Alas, I never figured out how to create that portal. Instead, I realized early on that the idea of visiting so many diverse habitats in a single day was no more than a child's fantasy.

A fantasy, that is, unless you visit Croton Point Park in Westchester County.

Jutting into the Hudson River's shallow, fertile Haverstraw Bay, Croton Point Park's 508 acres contain a remarkable range of habitats. Along with unparalleled views of the river itself, the park boasts rocky shores, sandy beaches, a protected second bay (Croton Bay), patches of forest, marshes and ephemeral wetlands, mudflats, and—perhaps most distinctively—a former Superfund site that has been converted into a 100-acre native grassland.

Each of these little habitats boasts its own avifauna, of course. So, on a single morning's visit to Croton Point Park, you truly *can* feel that, within little more than a few steps, you can spot birds more characteristic of the Arctic tundra, boreal forests, Midwestern grasslands, northern coasts, and other habitats.

The park's forest patches—mostly vine-ridden second growth with scattered willows along the shorelines—are perhaps its least impressive feature. What makes them an exciting birding spot is their location. At up to three miles across, Haverstraw Bay is the widest spot in the entire Hudson River, so these woods can serve as an impressive migrant trap, with good numbers of warblers, vireos, flycatchers, and others touching down after crossing the river to the west.

There are three main forested areas where migration birding can especially shine: on the hill where the park's nature center is located; in the woods surrounding the model-airplane field; and in the stretch of woods between the RV area and Teller's Point, the park's southernmost spot.

With its slopes, proximity to the river, and relatively undisturbed forest, the nature center hill (built on an oyster midden left by Native American peoples who occupied the point up to 7,000 years ago) is often the most productive during migration. In about an hour one morning in mid-May of 2022, several of us got to watch—often at eye-level at close range—16 warbler species, many in multiples, including Worm-eating, Blackburnian, Bay-breasted, Canada, and others that

don't always show up here in waves. (As an added treat that same morning, an Olive-sided Flycatcher was working its way through the treetops at the base of the hill.)

Other unusual visitors I've spotted in various corners of the nature-center forest included (both in May) a beautiful male Hooded Warbler in 2021 and a pair of singing Cerulean Warblers in 2023.

Also located on the top of a hill (and also located where a Native American people, the Kitchiwank, once lived), the woods surrounding the model-airplane field can be very productive during spring migration. This area seems to be especially rich in flycatchers: along with nesting Eastern Kingbirds and Eastern Wood-Pewees, I've seen Yellow-bellied, Alder, and Least here. Other birds can also be abundant: big waves this past May included Wilson's Warblers and a Yellow-breasted Chat, along with a host of more expected species. And that same month, a young Mississippi Kite hung out there for at least a couple of days. (Might a Swallow-tailed be next?)

The lowland forest stretching south from the RV area has a somewhat different character. It features more pines (a Pine Warbler nested there in 2023); taller trees; vast areas of tangled scrub with emergent trees (Yellow-breasted Chat and Olive-sided Flycatcher have been seen in this habitat, too); a line of 19th-century yew trees near the point that are frequently migrant-rich; adjacent wetlands; and a couple of camping areas that provide some productive edge habitat. It was here in April 2022 that I came upon a Yellow-throated Warbler near the RVs, and overall this stretch always seems likely to produce something rare.

Just a few steps from most of these forested patches bring you to the river and bays, which can provide impressive wintertime spectacles. Large rafts of ducks, grebes (including Horned and Red-necked), and the two expected loons can gather there. During the winter of 2021-22, I had three flyby White-winged Scoters, while 2022-23 brought a pair of Surf Scoters that stuck around for a couple of days.

Among gulls, Bonaparte's Gulls occur occasionally, white-winged gulls are always a possibility in winter, and I still hold out hope for my lifer Little Gull flying past! The open vistas and fish-rich environment mean that unusual terns are also seen regularly, with multiple Arctic passing close by during their brief invasion in May 2022 and Caspian making several appearances in the summer of 2023.

The park's wetlands can be alternately frustrating and wonderfully exciting. The marshes, stretching between the east side of the park and Croton Bay, tend to be a mess of introduced phragmites and mugwort. However, though they host a limited number of nesting passerines (Willow Flycatcher, Common Yellowthroat), you never know what you might see or hear there.

In the fall of 2022, an open patch near the path hosted an unafraid Sora (and eventually a chick, which sadly did not survive), while Virginia Rails also put in regular appearances. (Could Yellow Rails be lurking there, too?) And then, in

June 2023, I was showing a couple of young birding friends a singing Willow Flycatcher on a bare branch near the park entrance, when just beyond it a Least Bittern rose from the marsh and gave us all a beautiful view as it skimmed the reeds for perhaps thirty feet before dropping back down.

Much of Croton Point Park's mowed lawns were once wetlands, too, and when there's been a hard rain, large puddles still appear amid the picnic tables. These can be surprisingly fertile traps for passing shorebirds. For a couple of days in early May 2023, for example, one puddle in the area known as "Mother's Lap" (located between the swimming beach and the nature-center hill) hosted Pectoral, Least, and Solitary Sandpipers, both Yellowlegs, and a pair of Dunlin. Unusual ducks, including Northern Pintail, can also utilize these ephemeral wetlands, and Snow Geese of both color morphs sometimes join the resident Canada flocks.

The small swimming beach itself is always worth a scan over the fence for shorebirds. In early September 2023, a Baird's Sandpiper spent several hours there before heading on.

But it is the grassland hill, restored by the county and state in the late 2010s (though now under threat again), that I think of as Croton Point's greatest glory. By replacing mugwort, spurges, and other invasive plants with native grasses, the hill has drawn nesting birds that are under intense pressure elsewhere in the region. Each year produces a bumper crop of Bobolinks (August post-breeding flocks of adults and young birds can reach 50 individuals), while Grasshopper Sparrows have also frequently nested there. In the summer of 2022, visitors had the joy of watching three male Dickcissels stake out territories on the hill, sing for several weeks, and then finally attract mates and rear successful broods.

Beyond the breeding birds, in every season many species that are rare in the region use the grassland for food and shelter. Raptors are always a feature: Northern Harriers and (more rarely) Short-eared Owls quarter the hill, while a single day during migration can bring a dozen or more American Kestrels. Even forest-loving species—including Great Horned Owl, Red-tailed, Red-shouldered, and Broad-winged Hawks, both common accipiters (as well as a likely Northern Goshawk in the winter of 2022-23), and Merlins and Peregrines—hunt here.

It was on a mowed lawn beside the hill that, in April 2023, I came upon a female Yellow-headed Blackbird foraging with a small flock of other blackbirds. When others came to see the blackbird, they spotted not just one, but two separate Lapland Longspurs nearby, both in breeding plumage.

June and August 2022 brought Loggerhead Shrikes (either one bird twice or two separate individuals) perching on the poles scattered around the grassland. (It later turned out that birders riveted by the shrike had their backs turned on a male Blue Grosbeak!) And August 2023 saw a hatch-year Horned Lark, a Dickcissel, and a young Lark Sparrow show up on the hill as well.

Fall brings its own panoply of species to the irreplaceable grassland. It was in September 2021 that a Sedge Wren made an unexpected visit, granting just a few of us close views and diagnostic listens to its distinctive "chip" call and buzzy alarm note.

It was also a September evening in 2022 that my wife and I heard an unusual call ringing out from above the hill. We soon spotted a large, long-winged shorebird circling above before landing out of sight: an American Golden-Plover, which was subsequently seen by others as well. And almost exactly a year later, September 2023, one thirteen-hour span brought a Northern Wheatear and an Upland Sandpiper to this invaluable habitat.

But it's in the winter that I think the grasslands are at their peak of beauty and richness, especially when they're dusted with snow. That's when I feel most vividly that I've stepped into a different time and place.

Here small flocks of Horned Larks peck at grit and seeds along the paths, while Snow Buntings flash white, brown, and buff as they fly past, and calling American Pipits bounce through the air like avian popcorn. Here, in December 2021, two skulking LeConte's Sparrows played hide-and-seek with countless birders over the course of several days. (Those of us lucky enough to have had up-close encounters with these elusive birds sympathized with those who spent cold, fruitless hours chasing them. Been there, froze like that!)

And it was just a year before that, the winter of 2020-21, that the winter-finch irruption reached Croton Point Park. A flock of at least two dozen Common Redpolls spent several days on the hill and in nearby trees…along with one or two (hotly debated) Hoarys. And, the cherry on the sundae of that winter, a LeConte's Sparrow, driven into plain view by the snowpack, favored all who visited with remarkably easy views during its brief stay.

And then, as winter transitions again into spring, the American Woodcock festival begins. On a single moonlit night, a dozen or more can be heard displaying (and sometimes seen rocketing across the sunset sky), the hill resounding with their "PEENTS," the twitter of their wings, and the odd chirps they make as they descend. It's a magical experience.

And, as you have seen, just one of many. As I walk around Croton Point Park, coming upon southern warblers and northern longspurs, marshland bitterns and open-ocean gulls, coastal shorebirds and grassland sparrows, I'm always reminded of my childhood fantasy. And I marvel at how lucky I am to have discovered a place that brings my dream so close to reality.

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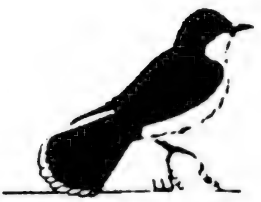

FIFTY YEARS AGO IN

The KINGBIRD

American Avocets in Buffalo Harbor. On the mudflats of Times Beach near the Coast Guard Station I discovered five Avocets at noon, August 22, 1972. This species is casual and very rare in Western New York waters. The only other report in the area was a bird reported by Brownstein and Schaffner at Fort Erie, Ontario on August 8, 1964 four miles northwest of Buffalo Harbor. (Beardsley and Mitchell, Birds of the Niagara Frontier Region, 1965)

Photos were taken through a spotting scope at ranges of forty to fifty yards. The birds were seen by other observers for the remainder of the day.

Avocets occur casually in the Northeastern states, so occasional reports of their presence in New York can be expected.

Paul M. Benham, 112 Linden Avenue, Kenmore, New York 14217

This note originally appeared in Volume XXIII, No. 3, July, 1973, on page 138.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I read with interest John Turner's recent article, "The Ruffed Grouse on Long Island: Extant or extirpated?" (*The Kingbird* 72 (4): 322-330). I've seen Ruffed Grouse in Hunter's Garden, Suffolk County, too, possibly Hugh McGuiness's bird as cited in your article, as back in those days, we were a tight-knit and small group of enthusiasts, all birding and communicating pretty closely and actively together on Long Island.

Beyond Long Island, it is worth noting that Ruffed Grouse is now pretty much gone from the majority of the lower and mid-Hudson Valley region (*Kingbird* Region 9). When I was growing up in northern Westchester County (1970s-1980s), Ruffed Grouse were actually pretty common, even in suburban settings. I grew up in an area of one-acre zoning in Chappaqua, and I saw them in my yard with some regularity, especially in winter, under the bird feeders, acting like chickens in a barnyard, waiting to be fed!

They were quite common breeders in powerline cuts, and notably at Ward Pound Ridge Reservation, places where I spent a lot of time birding in my youth. As well, they were pretty widespread and common in their distribution across the greater Hudson Valley in general, and not too choosey in habitat needs and preferences during that time period of my youth.

Today, I live in Millbrook, northern Dutchess County, where Ruffed Grouse are only very occasionally reported. There are likely a few breeding pairs that are

hanging on in the county in the undeveloped and wild, densely forested higher elevations of Dutchess. It seems that they continue on in greater numbers in the Catskills, and in even greater numbers in the Adirondacks and Tug Hill regions, to the north.

However, as you point out in your article, the species does not require dense, deep, high elevation forest, but rather prefers second growth hardwoods with open areas of low, dense deciduous undergrowth, what you might find in a logging area after a few years of regrowth, or as I mentioned above, powerline cuts—a favorite haunt for the species. And we have plenty of that habitat in my region to this day. So, why the great decline away from intensely developed Long Island?

I've heard any number of theories on the reasons for their demise across the state, none of which really make sense to me. I do not assign these sharp declines to habitat loss, fragmentation, pesticides, forestry practices, feral cats, rats, etc. There are still vast tracts of very suitable habitat throughout the state, where there are few domestic or feral predators, no intense development, no pesticide application, and no Ruffed Grouse in all that perfectly suitable habitat for the species. All of the reasons for the precipitous decline make no sense to me, except for one. Populations of widespread and common species of wildlife do not "collapse" over 20 years' time from feral cats or housing developments. I've always felt that it had to be rapidly spreading disease.

What makes the most sense to me is what I overheard on a Metro-North train one day, when I was commuting home from Manhattan. Two gentlemen seated ahead of me were speaking about their hunting exploits. The topic of Ruffed Grouse came up pretty quickly.

The gentleman who brought up the grouse topic identified himself to the other as president of the Ruffed Grouse Society. He very confidently stated to the other gentleman that his society had been researching the reasons for the Ruffed Grouse's demise throughout much of its range through scientific lab and field research. and the answer to the puzzle was West Nile Virus. West Nile Virus was wiping out the grouse population. That makes total sense to me. If you think about it, the species has declined or disappeared altogether in lower elevations near human populations, but not so in wilderness areas of deep forest, in higher altitudes like the Catskills, the Adirondacks, and the Tug Hill Plateau. And that is because the carriers of West Nile are largely absent in those areas: crows. The virus was identified in humans in 1999, which likely spread from wildlife populations, where it existed and spread some time before 1999 and the then-ensuing human epidemic. This all would coincide with the time period of the Ruffed Grouse's precipitous decline.

I'm convinced that the man on the train was 100% correct, as, to my thinking, it is the most reasonable and logical answer. I just thought I'd pass along my opinion on this matter, for what it is worth. Thank you again for writing such a complete and well written article for *The Kingbird*.

John Askildsen, Millbrook, Dutchess County, NY

EDITOR'S NOTE

The initial issue of each volume of *The Kingbird* serves basic record-keeping duties for the journal: the corrigenda from the previous volume (and older volumes, if other mistakes come to light) are listed and explained, making the corrections accessible and interpretable, in case the errors propagate into other publications or media. Similarly, the species sequence employed in this Volume's Regional Reports is stated here, so that readers will find it easier to browse for species of interest. The species sequence used in Volumes 69-71 was updated in Volume 72 to reflect changes as of the 62nd Supplement of the American Ornithological Society (AOS, formerly Union, AOU), and will remain unchanged in the present Volume, 73.

With a backlog of excellent articles ready to go, and with an eye toward improving *The Kingbird's* longstanding publication delays, I have taken a rather radical approach to the contents of the present issue. The Fall 2022 Regional Reports will be divided between the present Number 1, and Number 2, which will include the Highlights of the Fall 2022 season and is expected to follow very shortly. Number 3 will thus include the Winter season reports, a shift away from the recent norm.

In the "50 Years Ago" piece, we have once again sought to preserve the original text as closely as possible, including minor errors of spelling and punctuation.

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CORRIGENDA

Please note the following corrections to errors in *The Kingbird*. Some editorial errors, as well as minor errors of punctuation or formatting, will be corrected in the digital archive, accessible at nybirds.org, and are indicated here by underline.

KB 62.2 June 2012
The pagination on the archived version was off by one page, resulting in page number citations of photos appearing to be incorrect. This has now been corrected. The print version was not affected.

KB 71.4 December 2021
p. 413 The Lesser Yellowlegs entry is missing a space between the location and date.

KB 72.2 June 2022

p. 115 In the NYSARC report, the species order should be Common Gull, then Short-billed Gull.
p. 190 In the Abbreviations section, **BBB** – Bulwagga Bay Beach should be placed directly after **BB** – Bloomingdale Bog, and there should only be one semicolon after the **PH** – Port Henry entry.

KB 72.3 September 2022
p. 298 In the species accounts section at the top of the page, the last entry should end in a period.
p. 309 The last entry in the Abbreviations section should read **ws** – widespread.

KB 72.4 December 2022
p. 398 In the Abbreviations section, **ws** – widespread reports should not be in bold font.
p. 406 In the Contributors section, the name Joan Quinlan was misspelled.
The last lines should read "...and the many others who have contributed sightings during the season."
p. 410 In the Red-throated Loon entry, the first citation, K. Feustel, was misspelled.
p. 411 The Olive-sided Flycatcher entry's last line should read "...about 13 reps..."
p. 412 The American Crow entry citation should read (PJL *et al.*); and the Fish Crow entry should end in a period, not a semicolon.
p. 414 In the Blue Grosbeak entry, the word easternmost is misspelled.

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REGIONAL REPORTS—FALL 2022, IN PART

Because of space limitations, and in an effort to improve the publication schedule of *The Kingbird*, the present issue has been expedited and includes more than the usual number of pages devoted to front matter. Several Regional Reports for Fall 2022 will be published in the next issue, along with the Highlights of the Season.

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Much of the data in the Regional reports is sourced from eBird:
eBird Basic Dataset. Version: EBD_relNov-2022. Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Ithaca, New York. Nov 2022.

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REGION 1—NIAGARA FRONTIER

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September 2022 was generally pleasant with a mean temperature at the Buffalo weather station of 63.3° F, 0.1° below normal. There was 4.30" of precipitation, 0.20" above average, and the first time above average in six months. More than half of that rain fell during the last week of the month. The first half of October was warm while the second half was much cooler. The mean temperature was 52.4°, 0.7° above average, and precipitation was 3.73", 0.30" below average. November saw many pattern changes and some wild weather. The average temperature was 43.3°, 2.3° above normal. Rainfall was 6.52", 3.02" above normal, the third wettest November on record. It was also the second snowiest November on record, all due to an epic lake effect snow event that hit the Buffalo area 16-20 November.

Waterfowl migration continued the trend of pushing a little later, especially with geese into November. A Ross's Goose at Lyndonville on 23 November was a nice find by Joel Strong, and the seasonal maximum count of 24 Cackling Geese occurred there on the same date. The only report of Greater White-fronted Geese this season was of two at the same location on 26 November. Brant has been more 'miss' than 'hit' during lakewatching outings along Lake Ontario in recent years, which made the 90 counted on 2 October more notable than it would have been a decade or two ago. More surprising were the 17 counted at Buffalo Harbor on 8 October, as sightings on Lake Erie are much less frequent. Among the duck species, the most notable report was easily the female **Tufted Duck** at Buffalo Harbor that is presumed to be the same bird wintering at this location in recent years. Tom Kerr found the bird with the slight tuft among Greater Scaup on 23 November, and the bird was refound through the end of the month and beyond, often inside the nearest breakwall as viewed from Centennial Park.

Eared Grebes had been a regular fall season occurrence at Batavia WWTP going back to the late 1990s; however, there have been few reports over the past few years. Robert Buckert found one there on 19 September and sightings continued of one, and sometimes two, until 9 November. Perhaps more notable were single Eared Grebes found at Dayton Sand and Gravel Ponds by Joe Mitchell and at Buffalo Harbor by Rebecca Ploeger, both in November.

A **Rufous Hummingbird** appeared in Karen Miller's yard in Great Valley and several birders were allowed to come view and photodocument it over the

span of 18-26 November. The bird was present prior to that, but not certain for how long. This marks three of the last four fall seasons for Rufous Hummingbird occurrences in Region 1.

It would take a very special bird to overshadow a vagrant Rufous Hummingbird, and Region 1 was treated to such a bird when Frank Campbell, a local charter fishing captain, saw an odd, long-legged bird hanging out on the Niagara River shoreline near the Lewiston boat docks on 9 November. Campbell photographed the bird and sent it to NYSDEC biologist Connie Adams, who passed it on to Willie D'Anna on 15 November. D'Anna immediately recognized the bird as a **Limpkin**, representing New York State's long-awaited first record! A search promptly ensued and after getting some more details from Adams regarding the Limpkin's favored hangout, D'Anna re-found the bird and quickly got the word out to birders. The Limpkin remained in a weedy area on the bank snacking on the ample supply of Grove Snails in the weed patch until the 18th. Amazingly, even Canadian birders viewing from the Canada side of the Niagara River were able to catch glimpses as they patiently viewed with spotting scopes. Due to a forecasted severe winter storm, the decision was made to capture the Limpkin and transport it south to its native range, where it was successfully released on 24 November in South Carolina. See article this issue, pp. 7-14.

As Sandhill Cranes increase in the East, fall sightings of flocks in migration have increased in recent years, especially deep into November and even December. The maximum fall season count was 30 at John White WMA on 29 November.

Fall shorebird migration was subpar and without any true rarities. Inland habitat at Tonawanda WMA, Allegany SP, and a little bit at Tifft NP kept shorebird enthusiasts content along with the regular spots along Lake Erie. A Whimbrel and two Willets were sighted at Dunkirk Harbor on 5 September, plus another Whimbrel a few days later at Woodlawn Beach SP. Peter Yoerg reported a Long-billed Dowitcher at Iroquois NWR on 5 October, while an unidentified dowitcher a few days later at nearby Oak Orchard WMA may have been this same bird. Solitary Sandpipers photographed in different locations on 19 October and 21 October were a little later than usual, as was a Spotted Sandpiper observed at Dayton Gravel Ponds on 6 November.

There were several strong wind events that pushed birds on Lake Erie toward Buffalo. Most notable was the bounty found by birders on 26 September along the Niagara River in Buffalo with Red-necked Phalarope, two Red Phalaropes, Parasitic Jaeger, the season's only Sabine's Gull, four Little Gulls, 85 Common Terns, and one Forster's Tern. Three Red Phalaropes on the Niagara River at Black Rock Canal Park on 21 November were observed by many birders who were thankful for Joe Mitchell and Jim Pawlicki for getting the word out of their finding.

Black-legged Kittiwake was reported from four locations, with possibly the same juvenile appearing in some cases. A Laughing Gull photographed at Beaver Island SP on 13 September was not relocated. Gary Bletsch made some nice finds

in Chautauqua County with one Franklin's Gull at Celoron on 19-20 October and then two at Barcelona Harbor a few weeks later. Large gulls were slow to build up numbers on the Niagara River in November, as we've seen the peak activity push into December.

A **Neotropic Cormorant** at Delaware Park in Buffalo was the fourth Regional record, and without a doubt, the most easily chaseable. Kevin Rybczynski and Rebecca Ploeger identified the much smaller cormorant hanging out with a few Double-crested Cormorants on Hoyt Lake, where it was observed for more than a month after its discovery on 5 October.

Cattle Egrets were found in three locations in late October, consistent with the time period for fall reports of this species. Two of the sightings were along Lake Erie 22-23 October, with the third being inland. Of note is that on the same day (22 October) of the first sighting in Buffalo, there were ten observed on the Fort Erie, Ontario side of Lake Erie. Late Green Heron sightings were made in November at Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve and Beaver Island SP.

Black Vultures were sighted in the vicinity of the Niagara River in and near Lewiston, with a maximum of 12 reported this season. A sighting in Hamburg on 5 October by Gale VerHague is unexpected. A Golden Eagle identified by Michael Gullo as it flew over the mounds at Tifft NP was a rare fall migrant sighting on 14 October.

There were three Snowy Owl reports, with the first being on 17 November at Buffalo Harbor. Dean DiTommaso spotted a Short-eared Owl migrating over Lake Ontario around noon on 29 October during a BOS field trip; the only other report this season was of two at John White WMA, an expected location. David Junkin banded a total of 33 Northern Saw-whet Owls at his yard in Wethersfield between 15 October and 7 November, and there were two additional reports this season.

There were more Olive-sided Flycatcher reports than usual, including three at Tifft NP on 13 September, and Yellow-bellied Flycatchers were also well reported in September. Bruce Hoover smartly recorded an Acadian Flycatcher vocalizing at a regular breeding location in Chestnut Ridge County Park on the late date of 10 September. Steven Pitt was nicely surprised to find two White-eyed Vireos in Olean on 28 September.

Northern Shrike reports were scarce, with the first reported on 30 October. Fish Crows started to reappear in October, with up to 16 reported by Scott Diedrich at a now regular location in Buffalo. A Cliff Swallow on 2 October was a little on the late side. Willie D'Anna went out looking for **Cave Swallows** on 5 November after there were reports from elsewhere on Lake Ontario; he identified at least three of them in a flock of swallows flying west off Olcott.

It was a light finch flight in Fall 2022, with no redpolls, White-winged Crossbills, or Pine Grosbeaks reported, and a relatively light Pine Siskin movement. Evening Grosbeak movements were detected in late October into early November, with some settling in Southern Tier counties. A single Evening Grosbeak visiting a feeder along Lake Ontario in Wilson 16-18 September was

notably early. Two Red Crossbill reports were made, with eight found in Erie County Forest in late October and three flyovers at Krull County Park on 11 November.

Once again, Gale VerHague found a Grasshopper Sparrow in early October, with one at Dunkirk Airport on 5 October. Clay-colored Sparrows continued at their Krull County Park breeding grounds into early September, while one photographed by Carl Carbone at his feeder in Wales on 29 November was a big surprise for such a late date. Fox Sparrows were noted at many feeding stations affected by the heavy lake effect snow in November. Four Vesper Sparrow reports were nice for the fall season. Joel Strong identified a Nelson's Sparrow on 14 October at Tonawanda WMA, the only report this season.

Uli MacDonald found a Yellow-breasted Chat on the grounds of the Richardson Olmsted campus in Buffalo on 30 September; this species is rarely found during the Fall season in Region 1. Gale VerHague found a Yellow-headed Blackbird while kayaking around Dunkirk Harbor on 9 September. There were three Baltimore Oriole reports beyond September, with the last occurring in Lockport on 9 November.

Following the six reports made in Fall 2021 for Connecticut Warbler, it was still exciting to get four reports in Fall 2022. The warbler record highlight of the fall season was a **Townsend's Warbler** photographed by Shelley Seidman on 29 September next to Erie Basin Marina. The bird could not be relocated despite much searching the next day. This is the second Regional record, with the first occurring the previous fall season.

The 87th BOS October Count was held on 8 October on a cool day (high of 52° F) that became very windy in the afternoon. This count, compiled by Marcie Jacklin, includes both Region 1 and the adjacent area to the west in Ontario, Canada. A total of 194 birders contributed to tallying 163 species and 109,219 birds. There were several record high counts since the first count in 1935, including Neotropic Cormorant (1, first count record), Bald Eagle (61), Barred Owl (13), Red-bellied Woodpecker (369), Warbling Vireo (1, second count record), Common Raven (72), Tufted Titmouse (170), Northern Parula (9), and Northern Cardinal (615). Of these, Bald Eagle, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Common Raven, Tufted Titmouse, and Northern Cardinal are clearly increasing based on October Counts and other data. There were no record low counts.

CONTRIBUTORS

Mike Adriaansen, Sue Barth, Doug Beattie, Kyle Brock, Robert Buckert, Frank Campbell, Brad Carlson (BCa), Brandon Connare (BCo), Willie D'Anna, Scott Diedrich, Dean DiTommaso, Veronica Dollas, Joe Fell, Sandy Geschwender, Michael Gullo, Andy Guthrie, Tasha Haley, Bruce Hoover, Alec Humann, David Junkin, Matt Kaufman, Tom Kerr, Josh Ketry, Tim Lenz, Uli MacDonald, Karen Miller, Phil Mills, Joe Mitchell, Ben Nieman, Jim Pawlicki, Steven Pitt, Rebecca Ploeger, Betsy Potter, Tom Riley, Kevin Rybczynski, James Sawusch (JSa), Tim

Schadel, Karl Schmidt, Shelley Seidman, Debbie Sharon, Rob Sielaff, Joel Strong (JSt), Rick Thomas, Gale VerHague, Chris Wells, Peter Yoerg.

ABBREVIATIONS

ACNC – Audubon Community Nature Center, Jamestown CHAU; **AlSP** – Allegany SP, CATT; **AmSP** – Amherst SP, ERIE; **BeSP** – Beaver I SP, ERIE; **BMAC** – Beaver Meadow Audubon Center, WYOM; **BOSOC** – Buffalo Ornithological Society 08 Oct Count; **Bond L CP** – Bond L CP, NIAG; **BufH** – Buffalo Harbor, ERIE; **BuSP** – Buckhorn I SP, ERIE; **BWWTP** – Batavia Wastewater Treatment Plant, GENE; **ChauL** – Chautauqua L, CHAU; **DH** – Dunkirk Harbor, CHAU; **DHSP** – Devil's Hole SP, NIAG; **EvSP** – Evangola SP, ERIE; **FLC** – Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, ERIE; **FNSP** – Fort Niagara SP, NIAG; **GHSP** - Golden Hill SP, NIAG; **HBWMA** – Hanging Bog WMA, ALLE; **INWR** – Iroquois NWR, GENE/ORLE; **JWWMA** – John White WMA, GENE; **Krull CP** – Krull CP, NIAG; **LBSP** – Lakeside Beach SP, ORLE; **LESP** – Lake Erie SP, CHAU; **NF** – Niagara Falls, NIAG; **NFSP** – Niagara Falls SP, NIAG; **NR** – Niagara R; **OOWMA** – Oak Orchard WMA, GENE/ORLE; **PB** – Pt Breeze, ORLE; **PG** – Pt Gratiot, CHAU; **RWNP** – Reinstein Woods Nature Pres, ERIE; **TBNP** – Times Beach Nature Pres, Buffalo, ERIE; **Tifft NP** – Tifft Nature Pres, ERIE; **TRWMA** – Tillman Road WMA, ERIE; **TWMA** – Tonawanda WMA, GENE/NIAG; **WFWMA** – Watts Flats WMA, CHAU; **WBSP** – Woodlawn Beach SP, ERIE; **WTSP** – Wilson-Tuscarora SP, NIAG.

Snow Goose: arr GHSP 24 Sep; Olean CATT 30 Sep; 3, 3 Dayton CATT 9 Oct, 4 Nov; max 37 North Harmony ChauL 13 Oct; 24 Birdsall ALLE 13 Nov; 20 Alfred ALLE 20 Nov.
Ross's Goose: Lyndonville ORLE 23 Nov (JSt!); nearly annual in fall now.
Greater White-fronted Goose: arr 2 Lyndonville ORLE 26 Nov.
Brant: arr, max 90 Wilson NIAG 2 Oct (WD, JSt); 17 BufH 8 Oct (RT, KR), as viewed from Tifft NP; last 6 GHSP 21 Oct.
Cackling Goose: arr 2, 13 BWWTP 27 Sep, 16 Oct; max 24 Somerset NIAG 13 Nov; 22 Lyndonville NIAG 23 Nov; 8 Lewiston NIAG 24 Nov.
Canada Goose: max 2000 Oakfield GENE 9 Oct.
Mute Swan: 9 Waterport ORLE 12 Sep; 8 Wilson NIAG 5 Oct; max 15 WTSP 24 Oct; 9 PB 17 Nov; 7 Lewiston NR 27 Nov.
Trumpeter Swan: max 9 TWMA 18 Sep; DH 22, 23 Nov.
Tundra Swan: arr 9 WTSP 23 Oct; 211 BeSP 22 Nov; max 251 ChauL 25 Nov.
Wood Duck: 75 Tifft NP 13 Sep; max 85 BWWTP 19 Sep; 40 Keeney Swamp SF ALLE 7 Oct; 83 TWMA 18 Oct.
Blue-winged Teal: 26 Tifft NP 6 Sep; max 37 OOWMA 30 Sep; 19, 14 TWMA, BeSP 22 Oct; last 5 Tifft NP 30 Oct.
Northern Shoveler: max 115, 250, 312 BWWTP 19 Sep, 16 Oct, 9 Nov.
Gadwall: 8 OOWMA 25 Sep; 14 TWMA 23 Oct; max 86, 96 Tifft NP 27 Oct, 14 Nov; 30 Findley L CHAU 12 Nov.
American Wigeon: 45 Middleport NIAG 29 Sep; max 265 INWR 23 Oct; 12 ChauL13 Nov.
Mallard: max 498 BWWTP 22 Nov.
American Black Duck: max 20 OOWMA 2 Sep; 18 Wilson NIAG 2 Oct; 12 TWMA 23 Oct; 16 ACNC 28 Oct; 15 BWWTP 25 Nov.

Northern Pintail: 7 BWWTP 25 Sep; max 717 Wilson NIAG 2 Oct; 6 Sturgeon Point ERIE 6 Nov.
Green-winged Teal: 58, 70, 44 Tifft NP 13 Sep, 27 Oct, 7 Nov; 120 OOWMA 8 Oct; max 140 INWR 9 Nov.
Canvasback: arr Amherst ERIE 3 Nov; max 125 NF 25 Nov.
Redhead: arr 10, 160 Celoron ChauL 8, 29 Oct; max 500 Lakewood ChauL 1 Nov (TL).
Ring-necked Duck: 1, 7 TWMA 1, 14 Sep; max 85, 125 Dayton CATT 22 Oct, 6 Nov; 52 North Collins ERIE 13 Nov; 55 Wilson NIAG 23 Nov.
TUFTED DUCK: BufH 23-29 Nov (TK, mob, ph!), likely same female that has appeared in recent years.
Greater Scaup: 4 Buffalo NR 26 Sep; 760 BufH 25 Nov; max 1600 NF 25 Nov.
Lesser Scaup: 2 Tifft NP 6 Sep; 10 Buffalo NR 26 Sep; 40 Celoron ChauL 29 Oct; max 60 Findley L CHAU 12 Nov; 50 Mayville ChauL 12 Nov.
Harlequin Duck: no reports.
Surf Scoter: arr 2 Buffalo NR 26 Sep; 3 Celoron ChauL 22 Oct; 4, 11 DH 24 Oct, 4 Nov; max 65 Buffalo NR 24 Oct; 13 Sturgeon Point ERIE 11 Nov.
White-winged Scoter: arr 4, 6 Wilson NIAG 22, 23 Sep; 75 Buffalo NR 24 Oct; 83 Krull CP 6 Nov; max 118 FNSP 23 Nov.
Black Scoter: arr 2 Krull CP 9 Oct; 4 Barcelona CHAU 10 Oct; 12 Celoron ChauL 5 Nov; 6 Sturgeon Point 8 Nov; 11 DH 12 Nov; max 14 FNSP 27 Nov.
Long-tailed Duck: arr 1, 485 Buffalo NR 26 Sep, 20 Oct; 448 GHSP 12 Nov; max 1020 BufH 25 Nov (AG).
Bufflehead: arr 3 DH 19 Oct; 300 ChauL 14 Nov; max 1000 BufH 28 Nov (MK).
Common Goldeneye: arr 4 Somerset NIAG 29 Oct; max 400 NF 17 Nov; 100 BufH 28 Nov.
Hooded Merganser: 175 DH 22 Nov; 126 Cassadaga CHAU 26 Nov; max 228 Dayton CATT 29 Nov.
Common Merganser: 125 Sheridan CHAU 18 Oct; 125 Dayton CATT 21 Oct; max 450 Cassadaga CHAU 26 Nov.
Red-breasted Merganser: arr 4 LESP, GHSP 24 Sep; 150 Somerset NIAG 29 Oct; max 1979 Krull CP 6 Nov; 550 Barcelona CHAU 8 Nov.
Ruddy Duck: 8 BWWTP 20 Sep; 125, 463 Dayton CATT 9 Oct, 4 Nov; max 494, 575 BWWTP 17 Oct, 2 Nov; 120 ChauL 2 Nov; 280 Findley L CHAU 7 Nov.

Wild Turkey: max 36 Cherry Creek CHAU 14 Nov.
Ruffed Grouse: TWMA 12 Oct, NIAG reports are rare.
Ring-necked Pheasant: 12 BOSOC.

Pied-billed Grebe: 14 TWMA 23 Oct; max 20 Mayville ChauL 2 Nov.
Horned Grebe: arr GHSP 1 Oct; 64 LESP 24 Oct; 50 Somerset NIAG 29 Oct; max 95 Barcelona CHAU 3 Nov; 45 PB 10 Nov.
Red-necked Grebe: arr 3, 6 GHSP 1, 4 Oct; Buffalo NR 18 Oct; 2 GHSP 4 Nov; 2 DH 16 Nov.
Eared Grebe: 1-2 BWWTP 19 Sep - 9 Nov (RB, mob); Dayton CATT 6-9 Nov (JM, mob); BufH 23-30 Nov (RP, KR, mob), good showing.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: TWMA 10 Oct; last Hamburg ERIE 25 Oct;
Black-billed Cuckoo: last WBSP 4 Sep.

Common Nighthawk: 5 Springville ERIE 2 Sep; max 12 BeSP 3 Sep; 8 Buffalo ERIE 7 Sep; last Cheektowaga ERIE 28 Sep.

Chimney Swift: last 3 INWR 16 Oct.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: last Grand I ERIE 9 Oct.
RUFOUS HUMMINGBIRD: Great Valley CATT 18-26 Nov (KM, KB, ph!),

observed by several birders with permission.

Virginia Rail: Conewango CATT 9 Sep; Caneadea ALLE 10 Sep; last OOWMA 23 Oct.
Sora: 2 Conewango CATT 8 Sep; Orchard P ERIE 17 Sep; last BeSP 23 Oct.
Common Gallinule: max 8 INWR 17 Sep; last TWMA 28 Oct.
American Coot: 81 Celoron ChauL 21 Oct; 80 Mayville ChauL 2 Nov; 85 Sheridan CHAU 10 Nov; max 100 ChauL 14 Nov.

LIMPKIN: Lewiston NR 9-18 Nov (FC, WD, mob, ph!), first state record! *see intro.*

Sandhill Crane: 2 ACNC 8 Sep, 5 Oct; 6 INWR 15 Sep; 14 OOWMA 16 Oct; 4 Alexander GENE 25 Oct; 3 TWMA 29 Oct; 16 Oakfield GENE 1 Nov; Ellery CHAU 8 Nov; 2 West Valley CATT 19 Nov; 6 Fillmore ALLE 24 Nov; max 30 JWWMA 29 Nov (BH).

Black-bellied Plover: 2 AlSP 6 Sep; 1 BufH 11 Sep; WBSP 20 Sep; only reports.
American Golden-Plover: 2 BufH 5 Sep; 3 Porter NIAG 7 Sep; max 18 Middleport NIAG 25 Sep; last Batavia GENE 8 Oct.
Killdeer: 138 Somerset NIAG 20 Oct; max 173, 92 Shelby ORLE 26 Oct, 2 Nov.
Semipalmated Plover: max 24 AlSP 6 Sep; 18 Tifft NP 8 Sep.

Whimbrel: DH 5 Sep (GV); last WBSP 9 Sep (SB); only reports.
Ruddy Turnstone: last 2 DH 7 Sep.
Red Knot: no reports.
Stilt Sandpiper: no reports.
Sanderling: 13 WBSP 4 Sep; max 14 PG 14 Sep; last 4 DH 27 Sep.

Dunlin: arr 19 TWMA 2 Oct; 9 AlSP 21 Oct; 5, 5 NFSP 25, 27 Nov.
Baird's Sandpiper: TWMA 1 Sep; AlSP 6 Sep; last WBSP 11 Sep.
Least Sandpiper: last WTSP 15 Oct.
White-rumped Sandpiper: Tifft NP 6 Oct; last 3 TWMA 10 Oct.
Pectoral Sandpiper: 6 INWR 25 Sep; 20 TWMA 2 Oct; last 3 Somerset NIAG 26 Oct.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: last Tifft NP 15 Sep.
Short-billed Dowitcher: no reports.
Short-billed/Long-billed Dowitcher: OOWMA 8 Oct (BCo), only report.
Long-billed Dowitcher: INWR 5 Oct (PY), only report.
American Woodcock: Buffalo ERIE 7 Nov; last INWR 24 Nov.
Wilson's Snipe: max 46 Attica WYOM 16 Oct (BCa); 6 OOWMA 6 Nov; 4 North Collins ERIE 19 Nov; last Chautauqua ChauL 23 Nov.
Spotted Sandpiper: last Dayton CATT 6 Nov (KB), on the late side.
Solitary Sandpiper: 5 AlSP 6 Sep; HBWMA 19 Oct (KS), late; last TWMA 21 Oct (PM), late.
Lesser Yellowlegs: max 12 INWR 1 Sep; 10 TWMA 21 Oct; last Somerset NIAG 26 Oct.
Willet: 2 DH 5 Sep (GV), only report.
Greater Yellowlegs: max 12, 21 OOWMA 30 Sep, 8 Oct; last BeSP 22 Nov.
Red-necked Phalarope: Buffalo NR 26-27 Sep (PM, mob); only report.
Red Phalarope: 2 Buffalo NR 26 Sep (PM, KR, mob); 3-1 Buffalo NR 21-22 Nov (JP, JM, mob).

Parasitic Jaeger: arr Buffalo NR 19, 26 Sep (PM, AH, mob); Buffalo NR 18 Oct (PM); strong wind days.

Black-legged Kittiwake: arr Buffalo NR 17 Oct (JK); WBSP 1 Nov (SB); Barcelona CHAU 7 Nov (TL); NFSP 25 Nov (WD, BP).

Sabine's Gull: juv Buffalo NR 26-27 Sep (AH, SB, mob); only report.
Bonaparte's Gull: 750, 450 Buffalo NR 26 Sep, 18 Oct; 375 Lewiston NR 23 Oct; 780 Barcelona CHAU 4 Nov; max 2302 FNSP 5 Nov.
Little Gull: max 4, 4 Buffalo NR 26 Sep, 18 Oct; 2 FNSP 5 Nov; Barcelona CHAU 11 Nov; 2 Lewiston NR 27 Nov.
Laughing Gull: BeSP 13 Sep (SG; ph!), rare.
Franklin's Gull: Celoron ChauL 19, 20 Oct (GB; ph!); 2 Barcelona CHAU 7 Nov (GB, mob, ph!).
Ring-billed Gull: max 7500 ChauL 14 Nov.
Herring Gull: max 1800 ChauL 14 Nov.
Iceland Gull: arr 1, max 3 DHSP 23 Nov; PB 22 Nov; NFSP 25 Nov.
Lesser Black-backed Gull: 4 WBSP 14 Sep; multiple single reports in Oct; 2 ChauL 13 Nov; max 5 NFSP 25 Nov.
Glaucous Gull: no reports.
Great Black-backed Gull: 6 BOSOC; max 8 BufH 9 Nov.

Caspian Tern: max 16 Buffalo NR 6 Sep; last 2 GHSP 1 Oct.
Black Tern: no reports.
Common Tern: max 85 Buffalo NR 26 Sep; 12 BeSP 23 Oct; last 1, 1 Buffalo NR 5 Nov, 25 Nov.
Forster's Tern: Buffalo NR, BeSP 26 Sep (JF, RS, DS); max 2 Lewiston NR 23 Oct (JSt); last BufH 27 Oct (KR).

Red-throated Loon: arr 1, 7 GHSP 21, 23 Oct; 9 Barcelona CHAU 4 Nov; max 514 Olcott NIAG 15 Nov; BufH 23 Nov; 25 Wilson NIAG 23 Nov.
Common Loon: EvSP 4 Sep; 5 PG 24 Sep; 73 GHSP 22 Oct; 98 Barcelona CHAU 4 Nov; max 134 Krull CP 11 Nov.

Double-crested Cormorant: max 1300, 1200 DH 6 Sep, 17 Oct; 1050 BufH 28 Sep; 450 Olcott NIAG 5 Oct.

NEOTROPIC CORMORANT: Buffalo ERIE 5 Oct - 9 Nov (KR, RP, mob, ph!), 4th Reg record, all since 2015.

American Bittern: TBNP 3 Sep; Tifft NP 27 Sep; four single reports in Oct; last Buffalo ERIE 3 Nov.
Least Bittern: INWR 8 Oct, only report.
Great Egret: max 48 INWR 2 Sep; 38 TWMA 2 Oct; last DH 7 Nov.
Cattle Egret: BufH 22 Oct (CW, mob); Angola ERIE 23 Oct (TR, mob); East Aurora ERIE 29 Oct (RS, BN); near annual in fall now.
Green Heron: RWNP 7-10 Nov (MA); last BeSP 26 Nov (DS); both late.
Black-crowned Night-Heron: max 12 Tifft NP 6 Sep; BufH 31 Oct.

Black Vulture: max 12 Whirlpool SP NIAG 12 Sep; Hamburg ERIE 15 Oct (GV), unusual location; 10 Lewiston NR 16 Nov.
Turkey Vulture: max 79 Lewiston NR 16 Oct.

Osprey: last Amherst ERIE 11 Oct.

Golden Eagle: arr Tifft NP 14 Oct (MG); only report.
Northern Harrier: max 3 Conewango Valley CATT 5 Nov; max 3 JWWMA 29 Nov.
Bald Eagle: max 7 INWR 16 Sep; 61 BOSOC, record count.
Red-shouldered Hawk: 4 BOSOC.
Broad-winged Hawk: last EvSP 24 Sep.
Rough-legged Hawk: arr Keeney Swamp SF ALLE 18 Oct.

Snowy Owl: arr BufH 17 Nov; Buffalo ERIE 28 Nov; NF 29 Nov; only reports.
Barred Owl: max 3 BMAC 5, 22 Oct; 13 BOSOC, record count.
Long-eared Owl: no reports.
Short-eared Owl: arr GHSP 29 Oct (DD, WD), observed flying over Lake Ontario around noon; 2 JWWMA 29 Nov.

Northern Saw-whet Owl: 33 banded Wethersfield WYOM 15 Oct - 7 Nov (DJ); NF 2 Nov; Forestville CHAU 19 Nov.

Red-headed Woodpecker: max 6 LESP 4 Sep; 4 Ripley CHAU 5 Sep; 3 EvSP 5 Sep; 3 PG 6 Sep; Dayton CATT 14 Oct; FLC 22 Oct.
Red-bellied Woodpecker: 369 BOSOC, record count.

Great Crested Flycatcher: last Tifft NP 29 Sep.
Eastern Kingbird: last Dunkirk Airport CHAU, West Seneca ERIE 5 Sep.
Olive-sided Flycatcher: AmSP 2 Sep; Shelby ORLE 2 Sep; Somerset NIAG 4 Sep; Fredonia CHAU 6 Sep; max 1, 3 Tifft NP 10, 13 Sep (RS, BN; BCa); last BuSP 20 Sep.
Eastern Wood-Pewee: last Tifft NP 9 Oct.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: max 3 WBSP 6 Sep; last Stiglmeier P ERIE 29 Sep; well reported in Sep.
Acadian Flycatcher: last Chestnut Ridge CP ERIE 10 Sep (BH, audio), late.
Willow Flycatcher: last West Seneca ERIE 7 Sep.
Least Flycatcher: last Fredonia CHAU 29 Sep.
Eastern Phoebe: last Forestville CHAU 6 Nov.

White-eyed Vireo: 2 Olean CATT 28 Sep (SP), rare but near annual in fall recently.
Yellow-throated Vireo: last WTSP 5 Oct (WD), slightly late.
Blue-headed Vireo: last Orchard P ERIE 28 Oct.
Philadelphia Vireo: max 3 Orchard P ERIE 17 Sep (SB); last BeSP 7 Oct (DS).
Warbling Vireo: last 2 BuSP 29 Sep.
Red-eyed Vireo: last WBSP 21 Oct.

Northern Shrike: arr Conewango CATT 30 Oct; reported from only five locations.

Blue Jay: max 101 WTSP 27 Sep (WD).
American Crow: max 730 Celoron CHAU 30 Nov.
Fish Crow: Hamburg ERIE 10 Oct; max 9, 16 Buffalo ERIE 28 Oct, 10 Nov (SD); 2 RWNP 14 Nov (MA).
Common Raven: 72 BOSOC, record count; max 10 Allen Lake SF ALLE 7 Nov.

Tufted Titmouse: 170 BOSOC, record count.

Horned Lark: 64 Sheldon WYOM 17 Nov; max 70 Medina ORLE 22 Nov.

Bank Swallow: last 10 OOWMA 16 Sep.
Tree Swallow: max 110 BWWTP 25 Sep; 75 BWWTP 10 Oct; last OOWMA 23 Oct.
Northern Rough-winged Swallow: max 6 Medina ORLE 29 Sep; last NF 13 Nov.
Purple Martin: max 50, last 3 BuSP 3, 6 Sep.
Barn Swallow: last Somerset NIAG 23 Oct.
Cliff Swallow: 2 Buffalo NR 6 Sep; last TWMA 2 Oct (TS).
CAVE SWALLOW: 3 Olcott NIAG 5 Nov (WD!), among other swallows that were probably also Caves.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr Forestville CHAU 5 Sep.
Golden-crowned Kinglet: arr 2 WBSP 21 Sep.

Cedar Waxwing: max 150 WBSP 4 Sep.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: last WBSP 21 Sep.

House Wren: last WTSP 31 Oct.
Winter Wren: arr AmSP 2 Sep; max 13 WBSP 13 Oct.
Marsh Wren: last 3, 1 INWR 2, 24 Nov.
Carolina Wren: 68 BOSOC.

Gray Catbird: only one report beyond Oct.
Brown Thrasher: last 3 BOSOC.
Veery: last LBSP 27 Sep.
Gray-cheeked Thrush: last LBSP 23 Oct.
Swainson's Thrush: last Attica WYOM 15 Oct.
Hermit Thrush: max 14 AmSP 10 Oct (JSa).
Wood Thrush: last Bond L CP 4 Oct.
American Robin: max 176 RWNP 1 Sep.

American Pipit: arr 2 WBSP, TBNP 16 Sep; max 127 Shelby ORLE 6 Oct.

Evening Grosbeak: arr Wilson NIAG 16-18 Sep (BP, WD), early; max 26 Wilson NIAG 26 Oct; 15 West Seneca ERIE 28 Oct; 17 Machias CATT 18 Nov; 14 Alfred ALLE 27 Nov; decent showing for recent years.
Pine Grosbeak: no reports.
House Finch: max 30 Lewiston NIAG 19 Nov.
Purple Finch: max 12 TRWMA 3 Oct.
Common Redpoll: no reports.
Red Crossbill: max 8 Erie County Forest ERIE 29 Oct (SB); 3 Krull CP 11 Nov (WD, JSt); only reports.
White-winged Crossbill: no reports.
Pine Siskin: arr Ransomville NIAG 11 Oct; 10 Porter NIAG 21 Oct; 4 Krull CP 29 Oct; max 16 Carlton ORLE 20 Nov.
American Goldfinch: max 502 Krull CP 5 Nov (WD), flight near lakeshore.

Lapland Longspur: arr, max 4 DH 9 Nov; Sheldon WYOM 17 Nov; 2 Freedom CATT 19 Nov.
Snow Bunting: arr 2 Hanover CHAU 18 Oct; max 65 DH 9 Nov.

Grasshopper Sparrow: last Dunkirk Airport CHAU 5 Oct (GV); only report.
Clay-colored Sparrow: 4, 2 Krull CP 1, 4 Sep (WD, BP), continued from breeding season; last Wales ERIE 29 Nov (CC ph!), surprise feeder visitor.
Field Sparrow: RWNP 5 Nov, only report beyond Oct.
Fox Sparrow: arr 2 BOSOC; max 6 Dunkirk Airport CHAU 21 Nov (GV).
American Tree Sparrow: arr 4 OOWMA 23 Oct.
White-crowned Sparrow: arr Orchard P ERIE 17 Sep; max 14 WTSP 24 Oct.
White-throated Sparrow: max 86 Sheridan CHAU 23 Oct.
Vesper Sparrow: Lancaster ERIE 23 Sep; CVWMA 24 Sep; BWWTP 12 Oct; last Middlebury WYOM 24 Oct (DB).
Nelson's Sparrow: TWMA 14 Oct (JSt), only report.
Savannah Sparrow: NF Airport NIAG 3 Nov; Dunkirk Airport CHAU 20 Nov; 2 Porter NIAG 23 Nov; only reports beyond Oct.
Lincoln's Sparrow: arr Rushford ALLE 9 Sep; last Tifft NP 27 Oct.

Yellow-breasted Chat: Buffalo ERIE 30 Sep (UM), rare in fall.

Yellow-headed Blackbird: DH 9 Sep (GV), rare; fall reports less frequent than spring.
Bobolink: max 15 TWMA 11 Sep; last INWR 20 Sep.
Eastern Meadowlark: max 20 Dunkirk Airport CHAU 27 Sep; last Conewango CATT 5 Nov.
Baltimore Oriole: West Falls ERIE 6 Oct; BeSP 31 Oct; Lockport NIAG 9 Nov (TH); only reports beyond Oct.
Red-winged Blackbird: max 1800 TWMA 27 Oct; 900 Shelby ORLE 16 Nov.
Brown-headed Cowbird: max 1200 Conewango CATT 1 Nov (GV).
Rusty Blackbird: arr Fredonia CHAU 21 Sep; 75 TWMA 10 Oct; max 700 BuSP 25 Oct.
Common Grackle: max 1200 Mina CHAU 25 Sep; 800 BeSP 23 Oct.

Ovenbird: last Buffalo ERIE 8 Oct.
Northern Waterthrush: last Tifft NP 13 Sep.
Golden-winged Warbler: no reports.
Blue-winged Warbler: last Stiglmeier P ERIE 22 Sep.
"Brewster's" Warbler: West Seneca ERIE 6 Sep (JK), only report.
Black-and-white Warbler: last Tifft NP 16 Oct.
Tennessee Warbler: max 13 Sheridan CHAU 20 Sep; last BeSP 22 Oct.
Orange-crowned Warbler: arr BuSP 20 Sep; last BeSP, Stiglmeier P ERIE 23 Oct; good showing.
Nashville Warbler: last Grand I ERIE 29 Oct.
Connecticut Warbler: arr HBWMA 12 Sep (KS); Tifft NP 15 Sep (PM); Stiglmeier P ERIE 29 Sep (SB); last Tifft NP 3 Oct (KR, RP); good showing.
Mourning Warbler: last Ellery CHAU 29 Sep.
Common Yellowthroat: last NF, Stiglmeier P ERIE 23 Oct.
Hooded Warbler: last Carlton ORLE, Stiglmeier P ERIE 29 Sep.
American Redstart: last 2 Sturgeon Pt ERIE 16 Oct.
Cape May Warbler: max 8 Long Point SP CHAU 17 Sep; last Hamburg ERIE 18 Oct.
Northern Parula: max 6 WBSP 23 Sep; last Tifft NP 21 Oct.
Magnolia Warbler: max 10 Tifft NP 7 Sep; last Panama CHAU 23 Oct.
Bay-breasted Warbler: max 11 AmSP 6 Sep; last BWWTP 12 Oct.
Blackburnian Warbler: last 3 Tifft NP 3 Oct.
Yellow Warbler: last WBSP 21 Sep.
Chestnut-sided Warbler: last Buffalo ERIE 5 Oct.
Blackpoll Warbler: max 8 BuSP 20 Sep; last BuSP 23 Oct.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: last BuSP 15 Oct.
Palm Warbler: arr WBSP 1 Sep; last Tifft NP 28 Oct.
Pine Warbler: Alden ERIE 19 Nov (VD), only report beyond Oct.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 100 Tifft NP 12 Sep; 3 Chautauqua CHAU 1 Nov; 3 Carlton ORLE 2 Nov; only reports beyond Oct.
Prairie Warbler: TBNP 3-6 Sep (SS); last 2 Granger ALLE 17 Sep.
TOWNSEND'S WARBLER: Buffalo ERIE 29 Sep (SS ph!), 2nd Reg record, *see intro*.
Black-throated Green Warbler: last Tifft NP 10 Oct.
Canada Warbler: last TBNP 19 Sep.
Wilson's Warbler: last Buffalo ERIE 30 Sep.

Scarlet Tanager: last HBWMA 4 Oct.
Northern Cardinal: 615 BOSOC, record count.
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: last FLC 2 Oct.
Indigo Bunting: last 2 BeSP 14 Oct.

REGION 3—FINGER LAKES

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In Ithaca, September 2022 was wet. October was dry. November was warm. The average of daily low temperatures in September was 51.2° F, 2.4° above normal while the average of high temperatures was 69.8°, 1.8° below normal. Cold fronts

passed through the Region on 16, 21, 23, and 24 September. Total precipitation for the month was 6.01", 2.18" more than normal. The average low temperature in October was 36.3°, 2.6° below normal. The average high temperature was 60.5°, 1.5° above normal. Cold fronts passed through on 3, 8, 14, and 28 October. Total precipitation was 0.76", 2.94" less than normal. The average low in November was 33.3°, 2.9° above normal. The average high was 50.6°, 3.8° above normal. Cold fronts passed through on 8, 13, 19, and 29 Nov. Total precipitation was 3.75", 0.81" more than normal. Total snowfall was 1.8", 2.8" less than normal.

There were not a lot of waterfowl highlights this fall. A Greater White-fronted Goose in the Town of Tyre in late November was the only report of that species. A Eurasian Wigeon was at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge (MNWR) through the first week of September. Another appeared there in mid-October. A Long-tailed Duck on Seneca Lake at the Geneva Country Club in mid-October was an early arrival. Observers reported Regional fall high counts for Mute Swan, Common Goldeneye, and Ruddy Duck.

A group of Ruffed Grouse at MNWR in late October constituted a high count. A prison break at the Reynolds State Game Farm accounted for the high count of Ring-necked Pheasants outside that facility.

An Eared Grebe at the Waterloo Treatment Plant on 1 October was an early appearance for this scarce visitor. Three hundred was the high count for both Rock Pigeons in the Town of Ithaca and Sandhill Cranes at MNWR.

Among shorebirds, an American Golden-Plover and a Solitary Sandpiper lingered to late dates at MNWR. The only high counts were for Killdeer and Baird's Sandpiper both in early September at MNWR. Only one observer had the good fortune to catch a very short flight by three American Avocets that remained otherwise hidden by vegetation at MNWR. More cooperative was a **Ruff** that many observed there over three days in late October. A **Western Sandpiper** was kind enough to make its only appearance during the annual birding competition, the Montezuma Muckrace. The only report of Whimbrel came from MNWR on the first day of the season. Ruddy Turnstones were scarce with one at the Elmira Dam and one at MNWR on the same day in early September. Sanderlings were also scarce with one at Seneca Lake State Park in early September and one at MNWR in the middle of the month.

A Parasitic Jaeger was spotted flying over Cornell University in late September. Rare gulls included a Sabine's Gull, three reports of Laughing Gull, three reports of Franklin's Gull, and one Iceland Gull. There was one Forster's Tern reported by many at MNWR in early September.

A Snowy Egret was at MNWR in early October. Cattle Egrets were reported from four different locations between late October and mid-November. Also notable was a high count of Black-crowned Night-Herons at MNWR in early September. A Glossy Ibis was also present there in early September.

Two Northern Goshawks seen together in Hammond Hill State Forest in late September was a rare sighting. There was a high count of Red-headed Woodpeckers and a high count of Merlins in Yates County in early September.

Observers reported high counts of Great Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Kingbird, and Least Flycatchers. The last reported Acadian Flycatcher was late on 20 September. The last Eastern Kingbird was late on 10 October.

A high count of Red-eyed Vireos was at Palmer Woods in early September. The only report of White-eyed Vireo came from the Town of Ithaca in late September. The last Cliff Swallows were late on 10 September. A **Cave Swallow** was at Myers Point in early November.

Evening Grosbeaks were widely reported with the first arriving in mid-October. Purple Finch reports were numerous with a high count from the Comfort Road Migration Watch in Tompkins County. There was only one report of Red Crossbill. There were numerous reports of small numbers of Pine Siskins. No other winter finch species were reported.

A group of birders found the season's only Grasshopper Sparrow in late September. White-crowned Sparrows were first detected on 24 September, being reported from five different locations in three counties that day. Nelson's Sparrow was reported from several locations with a high count coming from Tompkins County in early October.

Observers reported high counts for several warbler species: Northern Waterthrush, Blue-winged Warbler, Connecticut Warbler, Mourning Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, and Blackburnian Warbler. A Nashville Warbler in late November and a Connecticut Warbler in early October were late dates for those species. David Suggs photographed the Region's fourth fall record of Yellow-throated Warbler in the Town of Springport in late October.

Dickcissels were reported from four locations. Two of those reports were based on calls of night migrants.

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ABBREVIATIONS

BL – Beebe L, TOMP; **CBG** – Cornell Botanic Gardens, TOMP; **CRMW** – Comfort Rd Migration Watch, TOMP; **CRP** – Cornell Research Pds, TOMP; **CU** – Cornell University; **CygL** – Cayuga L; **EWMA** – Erwin WMA, STEU; **GCC** – Geneva Country Club, SENE; **HH** – Hog Hole, TOMP; **HSRW** – Hile School Rd Wetland, TOMP; **LPBP** – Lindsay-Parsons Biodiversity Pres, TOMP; **MNWR** – Montezuma NWR; **MR** – Monkey Run, TOMP; **MtP** – Mt Pleasant, TOMP; **MyPt** – Myers Pt, TOMP; **NEI** – Northeast Ithaca, TOMP; **PW** – Palmer Woods, TOMP; **QCM** – Queen Catharine Marsh, SCHU; **RHPP** – Roy H P Pres, TOMP;

RSGF – Reynolds State Game Farm, TOMP; **Sh** –Slaterhouse, TOMP; **SLSP** – Seneca L SP; **SRCP** – Stevenson Rd Compost Piles, TOMP; **SW** – Sapsucker Woods, TOMP; **TCar** – T Caroline, TOMP; **TDan** – T Danby, TOMP; **TDry** – T Dryden, TOMP; **TFay** – T Fayette, SENE; **THec** – T Hector, SCHU; **TIth** – T Ithaca, TOMP; **TOv** – T Ovid, SENE; **TTyr** – T Tyre, SENE.

Snow Goose: arr 30 T Fleming CAYU 1 Oct; max 1600 T Seneca Falls SENE 29 Nov.
Ross's Goose: arr Muar L ONTA 4-5 Nov; max 2 MNWR 21 Nov.
Greater White-fronted Goose: TTyr 25 Nov (DK, ph).
Brant: arr 6 CU 21 Oct, late; max 103 CU 27 Oct; last Ithaca Reservoir TOMP 5 Nov.
Cackling Goose: arr CU 23 Nov; max 4 MNWR 2 Oct.
Mute Swan: max 12 Canoga Marsh WMA SENE 19 Nov (GP, CTH), high.
Tundra Swan: arr 4 MNWR 16 Oct; max 2450 MNWR 23 Nov.
Blue-winged Teal: max 150 MNWR 4 Sep; last 2 MNWR 5 Nov.
Eurasian Wigeon: MNWR 1-8 Sep; MNWR 13 Oct.
Canvasback: arr 10 MNWR 25 Oct; max 300 CygL SP 21 Nov.
Surf Scoter: arr 3 Seneca L SENE 28 Sep; max 10 SLSP 3 Oct.
White-winged Scoter: arr S Main Street Overlook SENE 15 Sep; max 19 MyPt 6 Nov.
Black Scoter: arr 7 S Main Street Overlook SENE 11 Oct; max 8 SLSP 11-13 Nov.
Long-tailed Duck: arr GCC 11 Oct (TL, ph), early; max 4 Wolffy's Restaurant SENE 26 Nov.
Common Goldeneye: max 120 Aurora High Banks CAYU 18 Nov (GP, CTH), high.
Red-breasted Merganser: arr SLSP 2 Oct; max 60 Aurora Bay Boathouse 25 Nov.
Ruddy Duck: arr 2 MNWR 2 Oct; max 700 CygL 13 Nov (mob!), high.

Ruffed Grouse: max 13 MNWR 29 Oct (EPe!), high.
Ring-necked Pheasant: max 37 RSGF 29 Oct (SR!), escapes, high.

Horned Grebe: arr GCC 29 Sep; max 4 Wyers Pt SENE 19 Nov.
Red-necked Grebe: arr GCC 4 Oct; max 2 MyPt 27 Nov.
Eared Grebe: arr Waterloo Treatment Plant 1 Oct (TL!, ph), early; CygL SP 18-27 Nov.

Rock Pigeon: max 300 TIth 2 Nov (JG), high.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: last THec 23 Sep.

Common Nighthawk: max 15 CU 6 Sep; last CU 28 Sep.

Chimney Swift: max 25 TFay 13 Sep; last 6 MNWR 2 Oct.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: max 6 TDry 4 Sep; last 2 CBG 8 Oct; Ithaca 8 Oct.

Virginia Rail: max 3 MNWR 11 Oct; last 2 HSRW 16 Oct.
Sora: max 12 MNWR 23 Sep (SO!), high; last TDry 18 Oct.
Common Gallinule: max 50 MNWR 12 Sep; last MNWR 23 Oct.

Sandhill Crane: max 300 MNWR 23 Nov (DK!, BMc!), high.

American Avocet: 3 MNWR 10 Oct (DDo!).

Black-bellied Plover: max 15 MNWR 24 Sep; last 3 MNWR 6 Nov.

American Golden-Plover: max 36 TFay 10 Sep; last MNWR 14 Nov (SC, ph; DK, ph), late.
Killdeer: max 150 MNWR 4 Sep (JHa, DSc), high.
Semipalmated Plover: max 30 MNWR 12 Sep; last MNWR 10 Oct.

Whimbrel: MNWR 1 Sep (ReS!).
Hudsonian Godwit: arr MNWR 22 Sep; max 4 MNWR 4-8 Oct; last 2 MNWR 27 Oct.
Ruddy Turnstone: Elmira Dam CHEM 6 Sep; MNWR 6 Sep.
RUFF: MNWR 20-22 Oct (DK, ph; mob).
Stilt Sandpiper: max 20 MNWR 10 Sep; last 5 MNWR 4 Nov.
Sanderling: SLSP 4 Sep (MO); MNWR 12 Sep (DWe).
Dunlin: max 40 MNWR 23 Oct; last 2 MNWR 14 Nov.
Baird's Sandpiper: max 8 MNWR 4 Sep (CMc), high; last MNWR 10 Sep, early.
Least Sandpiper: max 120 MNWR 20 Sep; last MNWR 23 Oct.
White-rumped Sandpiper: max 8 MNWR 5 Sep; last MNWR 22 Oct.
Buff-breasted Sandpiper: arr MNWR 5 Sep; last 2 TFay 12 Sep.
Pectoral Sandpiper: max 65 MNWR 5 Sep; last Risser Road Swamp ONTA 1 Nov.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 65 MNWR 6 Sep; last MNWR 22 Oct.
WESTERN SANDPIPER: MNWR 10 Sep (JM!, mob, ph).
Short-billed Dowitcher: max 10 3 Sep; last MNWR 9 Nov.
Long-billed Dowitcher: max 28 MNWR 8 Oct; last MNWR 14 Nov.
American Woodcock: max 3 TCar 21 Oct; last TCar 26 Nov.
Wilson's Snipe: max 15 MNWR 3 Sep; last 4 MNWR 12 Nov.
Spotted Sandpiper: max 4 SLSP 12 Sep; last Finger lakes National Forest SENE 16 Oct.
Solitary Sandpiper: max 4 CU 6 Sep, nocturnal; last MNWR 29 Oct (JanB, ScB!), late.
Lesser Yellowlegs: mx 255 MNWR 10 Sep; last 3 MNWR 6 Nov.
Greater Yellowlegs: max 100 MNWR 10 Sep; last 2 MNWR 13 Nov.
Wilson's Phalarope: last MNWR 10 Sep.
Red-necked Phalarope: max 2 MNWR 1 Sep; last MNWR 17 Sep.

Parasitic Jaeger: CU 23 Sep (TH!).

Sabine's Gull: GCC 20-21 Sep (ReS!, mob, ph).
Bonaparte's Gull: max 78 Eldridge P CHEM 12 Nov.
Laughing Gull: MNWR 18 Sep (BVD, JW, ph); GCC 19 Sep (TL, ph); SRCP 20 Sep (AV, ph); MyPt 21 Sep (KR!).
Franklin's Gull: GCC 21-27 Sep (mob!); Geneva Lakefront P ONTA 3 Oct (TL, ph); SRCP 4 Oct (JM, ph).
Iceland Gull: Wolffy's Restaurant SENE 26 Nov (AFe, JG).
Lesser Black-backed Gull: max 6 SRCP 9 Oct.
Caspian Tern: max 16 MNWR 8 Sep; last MNWR 4 Oct.
Black Tern: max 3 Almond L STEU 8 Sep; last MNWR 10 Sep.
Common Tern: max 6 GCC 27 Sep; last GCC 29 Sep.
Forster's Tern: MNWR 10 Sep (mob, ph).

Red-throated Loon: arr GCC 24 Oct; max 5 GCC 1 Nov; 5 CU 13 Nov.
Common Loon: max 300 HH 20 Nov, low.

American White Pelican: 2 MyPt 3 Oct (MPr!).

American Bittern: last MNWR 12 Nov.
Least Bittern: last MNWR 10 Sep.
Great Egret: max 153 MNWR 3 Sep; last MNWR 20 Nov.

Snowy Egret: MNWR 9 Oct (KZ!).
Cattle Egret: 2 T Potter YATE 26 Oct; MNWR 28 Oct; MNWR 10 Nov; T Canisteo STEU 12-13 Nov; CU 13 Nov.
Green Heron: max 12 HSRW 4 Sep; last SW 24 Oct.
Black-crowned Night-Heron: max 70 MNWR 3 Sep (CB), high; last MNWR 28 Oct.

Glossy Ibis: MNWR 1-13 Sep.

Black Vulture: max 2 CU 10 Sep; 2 TDry 21 Sep; 2 QCM 11 Oct; 2 Ithaca Shopping Plaza TOMP; 2 CU 24 Oct; 2 SRCP 29 Oct; last SRCP 30 Oct, early.

Osprey: max 5 Taughannock Falls SP 2 Sep; 5 Dresden 6 Sep; last Schasel P CAYU 19 Nov.

Golden Eagle: arr TDry 12 Oct; max 2 West Elmira Riverine Forest CHEM 6 Nov; 2 T Van Etten CHEM 9 Nov.
Sharp-shinned Hawk: max 8 CU 24 Sep
Northern Goshawk: max 2 Hammond Hill State Forest TOMP 21 Sep (CW!), high.
Bald Eagle: max 32 NEI 8 Sep.
Red-shouldered Hawk: max 4 CU 28 Oct.
Broad-winged Hawk: max 1061 NEI 8 Sep; last 8 TDry 12 Oct.
Rough-legged Hawk: arr MNWR 7 Oct; max 2 MNWR 26 Nov.

Short-eared Owl: arr & max 2 T Phelps ONTA 30 Oct.

Red-headed Woodpecker: max 3 T Potter YATE 1 Sep (HH), high; last MR 18 Sep.

Merlin: max 4 Indian Pines P YATE 7 Sep (GC!, ph), high.

Great Crested Flycatcher: max 3 SW 4 Sep (mob), high; last SW 17 Sep.

Eastern Kingbird: max 5 TDry 2 Sep (PMc), high; last MNWR 10 Oct, late.
Olive-sided Flycatcher: last SW 15 Sep.
Eastern Wood-Pewee: max 7 PW 7 Sep; last PW 5 Oct; Salt Pt Natural Area TOMP 5 Oct.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: last BL 22 Sep.
Acadian Flycatcher: last BL 20 Sep (ERe, ph; BHa, ph; mob), late.
Alder Flycatcher: last 2 TDry 3 Sep.
Least Flycatcher: max 5 MNWR 1 Sep (RN); 5 PW 1 Sep (MaG, BriH); 5 SW 7 Sep (TS), high; last CRP 2 Oct.
Eastern Phoebe: max 8 CBG 30 Sep; last TCar 26 Nov.

White-eyed Vireo: TIth 29 Sep (PH, ph).
Yellow-throated Vireo: max 2 MNWR 1-3 Sep; 2 HSRW 12 Sep; last Newtown Battlefield SP 24 Sep.
Blue-headed Vireo: max 9 EWMA 24 Sep; last T Niles CAYU 24 Oct.
Philadelphia Vireo: max 5 PW 18 Sep; last Durland Pres TOMP 5 Oct.
Warbling Vireo: max 5 Sperr Memorial P CHEM 4 Sep; 5 SLSP 16 Sep; last BL 30 Sep.
Red-eyed Vireo: max 40 PW 7 Sep (BriH), high; last Buttermilk Falls SP 8 Oct.

Northern Shrike: arr Steam Mill Fen TOMP 31 Oct.

Blue Jay: max 800 CU 2 Oct.
Fish Crow: max 95 One Franklin Square ONTA 22 Oct.

Tufted Titmouse: max 29 MR 1 Oct (RH), high.

Bank Swallow: max 100 MNWR 10 Sep; last MNWR 8 Oct.
Tree Swallow: max 10,000 MNWR 10 Sep; last T Seneca ONTA 30 Oct.
Northern Rough-winged Swallow: max 300 MNWR 4 Sep; last MNWR 12 Oct.

PHOTO GALLERY
Fall 2022, in part

Western Meadowlark, Shawangunk Grasslands NWR, *Ulster*, 28 Nov 2022, © Susan Logan Ward.

Limpkin, Niagara-Lewiston, *Niagara*, here 16 Nov, 2022, © Willie D'Anna. See article, pp. 7-14.

Northern Wheatear, Hillview Reservoir, *Westchester*, 7 Sep 2022, © Sean Camillieri.

Loggerhead Shrike, Hannibal, *Oswego*, 2 Sep 2022, © Matthew Brown. One of two individuals present in NYS this season. See the Region 5 report, p. 58, for interesting historical perspective.

Bohemian Waxwing, Topping-Matterese Nature Area, *Herkimer*, 23 Nov 2022, © Kevin Topping.

Black-legged Kittiwake, Cannonsville Reservoir, *Delaware*, 13 Nov 2022, © Jeanne Cimorelli. Rare inland away from the Great Lakes, this was Delaware County's first record (in eBird).

Black-legged Kittiwake, The Crossings, Colonie, *Albany*, here 13 Sep 2022, © Scott Stoner. Figure 1 for article, pp. 15-17.

Black Vulture, Niagara-Lewiston, *Niagara*, 16 Nov 2022, © Dominic Sherony.

Forster's Tern, Sandy Pond Outlet, *Oswego*, 9 Sep 2022, © Gary Chapin.

Purple Martin: max 7 MNWR 10 Sep; last 2 MNWR 9 Oct (MMa, MSci!), late.
Barn Swallow: max 70 MNWR 5 Sep; last MNWR 12 Oct.
Cliff Swallow: max 3 MNWR 3 Sep; 3 MNWR 10 Sep; last
CAVE SWALLOW: MyPt 6 Nov (CW!).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr TOv 7 Sep; max 23 Ridgeway Road Rail Trail TOMP 1 Oct; 23 PW 25 Oct; last HH 29 Nov; Stewart P TOMP 29 Nov.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: max 2 Rasmussen Road Swamp YATE 6 Sep; 2 T Geneva ONTA 20 Sep; last Salt Pt Natural Area TOMP 9 Nov.

House Wren: mx 10 Dunlop Meadow Natural Area TOMP 10 Sep; 10 SW 5 Oct; last THec 26 Oct.
Marsh Wren: max 7 MNWR 15 Sep; last Ithaca Wegmans TOMP 29 Nov (WH), late.

Gray Catbird: max 30 Edwards L Cliff Pres TOMP 16 Sep; last TCar 28 Nov.
Brown Thrasher: max 4 Sampson SP 9 Sep; 4 Kashong Conservation Area ONTA 10 Sep; 4 Finger Lakes National Forest SENE 16 Sep; last MR 17 Oct.

Veery: max 4 NEI 1 Sep, nocturnal; last TDry 30 Sep.
Gray-cheeked Thrush: max 30 MtP28 Sep, nocturnal; last Lakeland Apartments TOMP 18 Oct.
Swainson's Thrush: max 600 MtP 28 Sep, nocturnal; last MR 15 Oct.
Hermit Thrush: max 7 CU 26 Oct; last Sh 29 Nov; Frontenac Pt SENE 29 Nov.
Wood Thrush: max 9 NEI 28 Sep, nocturnal; last 2 Jim Schug Trail TOMP 5 Oct; TDry 5 Oct.

Evening Grosbeak: arr CRMW 11 Oct; max 36 TDan 27 Nov.

Purple Finch: max 436 CRMW 2 Oct (WE!), high.
Red Crossbill: 2 MR 2 Nov (CW!).
Pine Siskin: arr NEI 17 Sep; max 19 TCar 23 Oct.

Lapland Longspur: arr CRP 25 Sep; max 2 MNWR 22 Oct.
Snow Bunting: arr T Seneca ONTA 23 Oct; max 60 TTyr 12 Nov; 60 MNWR 20 Nov.

Grasshopper Sparrow: PW 29 Sep (mob, ph).
Chipping Sparrow: max 35 TIth 5 Sep; last 2 CU 8 Nov.
Field Sparrow: max 30 TFay 13 Sep; last T Erwin STEU 27 Nov.
Fox Sparrow: arr Jim Schlug Trail TOMP 5 Oct; max 7 MR 1 Nov; last NEI 23 Nov; TIth 23 Nov.
American Tree Sparrow: arr TDry 28 Oct; max 12 MNWR 13 Nov.
White-crowned Sparrow: arr 3 Flint Landfill ONTA 24 Sep; 3 TDan 24 Sep; Cass P TOMP 24 Sep; Cayuga Nature Center TOMP 24 Sep; EWMA 24 Sep; max 14 Savannah Mucklands SENE 9 Oct; last 2 TOv 26 Nov.
Vesper Sparrow: max 5 Cornell Community Garden Plots TOMP 16 Oct; last RSGF 27 Oct.
Nelson's Sparrow: arr HSRW 25 Sep; max 6 CRP 8 Oct (JM), high; last Seneca Meadows Wetland Pres SENE 12 Oct.
Savannah Sparrow: max 35 TFay 11 Oct; last RSGF 15 Nov.
Lincoln's Sparrow: arr TTyr 15 Sep; T Enfield TOMP 15 Sep; max 3 TOv 24 Sep; 3 PW 29 Sep; 3 RSGF 30 Sep; last THec 3 Nov.
Eastern Towhee: max 14 T Van Etten CHEM 7 Oct; last TCar 30 Nov.

Bobolink: max 490 QCM 10 Sep; last T Lansing TOMP 16 Oct.
Eastern Meadowlark: max 15 SW 28 Sep; last MNWR 26 Nov.

Baltimore Oriole: max 2 CBG 1 Sep; 2 Sh 1 Sep; 2 T Varick SENE 4 Sep; last 2 Kashong Conservation Area ONTA 10 Sep.
Rusty Blackbird: arr SW 10 Sep; max 40 QCM 11 Oct; 40 SLSP 11 Oct; last 2 NEI 29 Nov.

Ovenbird: max 10 CU 7 Sep, nocturnal; last MNWR 10 Oct.
Northern Waterthrush: max 2 SW 14 Sep (NSly); 2 CRP 14 Sep (JM), high; OD von Engeln Pres TOMP 25 Sep.
Blue-winged Warbler: max 4 BL 5 Sep (ERe), high; last TCar 22 Sep.
"Brewster's" Warbler (hybrid): PW 1 Sep; BL 5-6 Sep; Sh 6 Sep.
Black-and-white Warbler: max 5 BL 6 Sep; last 2 Campbell Meadows TOMP 2 Oct; 2 LPBP 2 Oct; HSRW 2 Oct.
Tennessee Warbler: max 12 PW 29 Sep; lasTIth 20 Oct.
Orange-crowned Warbler: arr SLSP 22 Sep; max 2 CRP 1 Oct; last THec 5 Nov.
Nashville Warbler: max 7 EWMA 24 Sep; last Taughannock Falls SP 26 Nov (ASt!, ph), late.
Connecticut Warbler: arr CU 4 Sep; max 2 TOv 21 Sep (ReS!), high; last CRP 1 Oct (TS, ph), late.
Mourning Warbler: max 2 RHPP 3 Sep (MaCh, MiCh), high; last TIth 1 Oct.
Common Yellowthroat: max 18 RHPP 7 Sep; last MNWR 26 Nov (AFe, JG), late.
Hooded Warbler: max 4 Ridgeway Road Rail Trail TOMP 1 Sep; last MR 30 Sep.
American Redstart: max 19 SW 7 Sep; last OD von Engeln Pres TOMP 2 Oct; TDry 2 Oct.
Cape May Warbler: max 17 RHPP 7 Sep (JG!), high; last SW 27 Oct.
Northern Parula: max 3 TDry 9 Sep; 3 CBG 30 Sep; last HH 9 Oct.
Magnolia Warbler: max 23 SW 7 Sep; last MR 30 Sep.
Bay-breasted Warbler: max 17 Birchwood Woods TOMP 13 Sep (JM!), high; last Buttermilk Falls SP 8 Oct.
Blackburnian Warbler: max 8 PW 6 Sep (MaG!); 8 SW 7 Sep (RN); 8 RHPP 9 Sep (AFe, JG, Jasdev Imani), high; last CBG 1 Oct.
Yellow Warbler: max 4 MNWR 1 Sep; last T Manchester ONTA 30 Nov (DSp, ph), late.
Chestnut-sided Warbler: max 9 SW 7 Sep; last RSGF 1 Oct.
Blackpoll Warbler: max 13 SLSP 30 Sep; last PW 25 Oct.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: max 2 CU 7 Sep, nocturnal; 2 RHPP 17 Sep; 2 TDry 23 Sep; 2 PW 30 Sep; 2 T Ulysses TOMP 3 Oct; last 2 Cascadilla Gorge TOMP 18 Oct.
Palm Warbler: max 10 PW 29 Sep; last T Covert SENE 26 Oct.
Pine Warbler: max 4 SW 17 Sep; last CBG 16 Oct.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 73 CRMW 8 Oct.
Yellow-throated Warbler: T Springport CAYU 29 Oct (DSu, ph), fourth fall record.
Prairie Warbler: max 4 LPBP 2 Sep; last RHPP 21 Sep; BL 21 Sep.
Black-throated Green Warbler: max 13 RHPP 7 Sep; last SLSP 19 Oct.
Canada Warbler: max 3 Danby State Forest TOMP 4 Sep; last MtP 28 Sep.
Wilson's Warbler: max 4 RSGF 11 Sep; last Dryden Rail Trail TOMP 3 Oct.

Scarlet Tanager: max 5 Ithaca 4 Sep; 5 Hector Hill TOMP 10 Sep; last Dundee 8 Oct.
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: max 50 MtP 28 Sep, nocturnal; last TIth 21 Oct.
Indigo Bunting: max 6 QCM 11 Sep; last LPBP 12 Oct.
Dickcissel: CU 6 Sep, nocturnal; T Lansing TOMP 17 Sep; Savannah Mucklands SENE 8 Oct; TDan 11 Oct, nocturnal.

REGION 4—SUSQUEHANNA

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September 2022 was slightly cooler and much wetter than normal with almost twice as much rain as the mean. October was about average regarding temperature and much drier than the norm. November was three degrees warmer and had an inch more rain than average.

This year's Golden Eagle total of 125 for the fall migration at Franklin Mountain was somewhat lower than the long-term average with the highest counts coming in mid to late November. The maximum count was on 13 November with twenty Golden Eagles being tallied, with another nineteen seen on 23 November. Raptor species with above average numbers were Turkey Vulture, Bald Eagle, and Broad-winged Hawk. The total Broad-winged Hawk count was 2,044, which is 24% above average. The Bald Eagle count of 246 was the third highest amount recorded at Franklin Mountain only narrowly bested by the previous two years' totals. However, the Red-tailed Hawk total of 596 was 64% below average and was the lowest count ever—given a reasonable number of observer hours. This is, of course, very puzzling since Red-tailed Hawks seem relatively common. In his summary of the hawk watch from last season Andy Mason reported, "Red-tailed Hawk numbers continue to be low. This does not appear to be a conservation concern. These adaptable raptors look to be wintering further north resulting in lower migration." However, he reports that this season there was another factor which affected migration counts—wind. Or more precisely, the lack of days with moderate northwest winds. Andy explained that there was a "35-day period from late September into October" without these ideal weather conditions. This most likely affected Red-tailed Hawks, Red-shouldered Hawks, Golden Eagles, and perhaps other raptor species. Other hawk watches reported normal numbers of Red-shouldered Hawks and Golden Eagles, for example, so the decrease in reported migratory raptors at Franklin Mountain does not appear to be a conservation concern; rather it seems some species took alternative flight paths. In total, 4,366 raptors were counted, which is below average for the FMHW. If you need more statistics regarding raptors, you can refer to the species list following the narrative and to the chart showing maximums and first arrival dates.

In Tioga County Adam Troyer was also counting migratory birds that flew over his farm and vicinity. On 15 September he counted 1,000 Broad-winged Hawks, and then saw 44 Tundra Swans and 150 Common Loons in November. Adam reports that all the loons flew by in 15 minutes, and most were seen in just a span of five minutes. His family's farm is called Birdsong Meadows Farm for good reason, with a great reason to come later in the narrative.

Black, Surf, and White-winged Scoters were all reported in the Region in October and November. A dozen Black Scoters were seen and photographed by

Catherine Murphy on Plymouth Reservoir in Chenango County on 2 October. This is a high number for our Region (actually, just seeing one is quite good for our Region!). The Whitney Point Reservoir in Broome County had good counts of Red-breasted Mergansers and Ruddy Ducks. A huge flock of 900 Ring-necked Ducks was reported on Allen Lake in Otsego County by Pete Fenner.

In Chenango County, Sandhill Cranes were seen and photographed in a few different locations feeding in marshy areas and farmlands. There seemed to be at least two pairs, and there was also a report of a flock of four feeding in a field. No juveniles were seen so there appeared to be no successful breeding in the Region.

A **Yellow Rail** was seen by Adam Troyer on 15 October on his farm in Tioga County, and this bird was seen and photographed by others. This is the second year in a row that Adam has spotted a Yellow Rail on his family's farm aptly called Birdsong Meadows Farm. He says the bird "was frequenting an uncut overgrown field." On 17 October the 30 or so birders who had arrived to see the bird were organized to do transects of the field and in doing so flushed the bird. They are rarely seen on migration and it is a truly amazing and rare sighting—especially two years in a row.

Regarding shorebirds not at the shore, in Chenango County Mike DeWispelaere saw and photographed six Pectoral Sandpipers in a corn field on 30 September. Both Lesser and Greater Yellowlegs were seen in more traditional shorebird locations in modest numbers. However, there were no observations of the more uncommon (for our Region) members of the sandpiper family.

A **Black-legged Kittiwake** was found on Cannonsville Reservoir on 13 November by Lance Verderame. It was found with a small flock of Ring-billed Gulls, and later appeared to be "feeding on a small school of fish" along with the gulls. The bird was then photographed by other birders whom Lance had alerted. It is the first eBird record for Delaware County, and quite uncommon inland.

Evening Grosbeaks began coming through the Region in late October, and were seen through November as many came to feeders, especially in Chenango County where Mike DeWispelaere documented these northern visitors for the Chenango Bird Club. Purple Finches also had an irruption year, and came through mainly in October with fifty being seen at Upper Lisle Park in Broome County by Dave Nicosia.

Another heartening sighting in the Region was of a flock of eighteen Rusty Blackbirds at Upper Lisle Park on 4 November. Most other sightings were of small numbers of this declining species.

Warbler diversity was about average this season, with 29 species recorded. The highlight was Connecticut Warblers seen in five different locations in the Region in September and early October—same as last season except some locations were different. Also, a Worm-eating Warbler was seen on King Street in Broome County on 1 September by Dan Watkins. Dan reports "it was hiding behind a mass of leaves when it stuck its head out and I got a poor but long enough look to see the unmistakable head pattern." King Street is a road which transects

the area between I-81 and Route 79 south of Whitney Point in Broome County, and has been a great spot to find warblers and other passerines.

In summary, 211 species, vs. 221 last year, were reported, with some interesting rarities for the Region. Most of the decline in the number of species was in shorebirds and flycatchers. The number of observations in eBird was 43,533 which was 114% of last season's total. I also want to acknowledge and thank Bill Ostrander, who sorted eBird data to identify arrivals, last dates, and high counts.

It seems to me that the Yellow Rail sighting certainly deserves 'bird of the season' for the second season in a row.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

AqPk – Aqua Terra P, BROO; **BMF** – Birdsong Meadows Farm, TIOG; **BPd** – Boland Pd, BROO; **BUNP** – Binghamton University Nature Pres, BROO; **CannR** – Cannonsville Res, DELA; **CG** – Carantouan Greenway, T Barton, TIOG; **CornellLa** – Cornell Lane, T Harford, CORT; **DorP** – Dorchester P, Whitney Pt, BROO; **FMHW** – Franklin Mt Hawkwatch, DELA; **KiebelRd** – Keibel Rd, BROO; **LHNC** – Lime Hollow Nature Center, T Cortlandville, CORT; **MHL** – Michigan Hollow L, TIOG; **NMSF**– New Michigan SF, CHEN; **OtsL** – Otsego

L, OTSE; **SHM** – Sherburne Railroad Grade Marsh, CHEN; **StPd** – Stupke Pd, T Cortlandville, CORT; **SusRB** – Susquehanna Ri, Greater Binghamton, BROO; **ULCP** – Upper Lisle CP, T Triangle, BROO; **WHP** – William Hill P, Johnson City, BROO.

FRANKLIN MOUNTAIN HAWKWATCH TOTALS

Species	Arrival	Max	Max Date	Total
Black Vulture				0
Turkey Vulture	10/3	76	10/3	579
Osprey	8/28	7	9/17	29
Golden Eagle	10/6	20	11/13	125
No. Harrier	8/28	5	9/14	48
Sharp-shinned Hawk	8/27	45	10/14	414
Cooper's Hawk	8/27	5	9/30	70
No. Goshawk	11/02	2	12/09	5
Bald Eagle	8/27	20	9/23	246
Red-shouldered Hawk	9/8	3	10/29	24
Broad-winged Hawk	8/27	518	9/15	2044
Swainson's Hawk				0
Red-tailed Hawk	8/27	85	10/27	596
Rough-legged Hawk				0
Am. Kestrel	8/28	8	9/21	86
Merlin	9/2	3	10/6	24
Peregrine Falcon	9/9	2	9/22	12
Unidentified				64
Total incl unidentified				**4,366**

Snow Goose: max 51 Burlington OTSE 27 Oct.
Greater White-fronted Goose: SHM 24 Oct, ph.
Brant: max 687 FMHW 27 Oct; 494 Oxford CHEN 27 Oct.
Cackling Goose: max 7 BMF 2 Oct.
Trumpeter Swan: BPd 6 Nov.
Tundra Swan: max 44 BMF 20 Nov.
Ring-necked Duck: max 900 Allen Lake OTSE 27 Nov, (PFenner).
Surf Scoter: max 5 SHM 24-25 Oct, ph.
White-winged Scoter: max 7 Glimmerglass SP OTSE 23 Nov, ph.
Black Scoter: max 12 Plymouth Res CHEN 2 Oct, ph, (CM).
Long-tailed Duck: max 4 Pepacton Res DELA 13 Nov.

Common Goldeneye: 30 OtsL 26-27 Nov.
Hooded Merganser: 70 Hillcrest Pits Chenango R BROO 22 Nov.
Red-breasted Merganser: max 5 KeibelRd 8 Oct.
Ruddy Duck: max 29 ULCP 4 Nov.

Horned Grebe: max 2 ULCP 21 Oct.
Red-necked Grebe: Chenango L CHEN 14&17 Nov, ph, only reports.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: no reports.
Black-billed Cuckoo: only 3 scattered reports in Sep.

Common Nighthawk: max 8 WHP 2 Sep; 5 Apalachin TIOG 8 Sep; most sightings along rivers or bodies of water.

Chimney Swift: last Nowlan Rd BROO 13 Sep.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: last T Bovina DELA 27 Sep.
hummingbird species: BMF 8 Nov, rust on the sides and undertail.

Virginia Rail: SHM 10 Sep; BPd 25&30 Sep; only reports.
Sora: MHL 4 Sep & 2 Oct, ph; Daisy Hollow Rd CORT 19 Sep; only reports.
Common Gallinule: no reports.
American Coot: max 35 OtsL 16 & 30 Nov.
YELLOW RAIL: BMF 15-17 Oct, ph, mob, (ATroyer).

Sandhill Crane: max 4 Oxford CHEN 6 Sep; 2 SHM 6 Sep-16 Oct, ph; 2 Round Pd Pharsalia SF CHEN 9 Oct, ph; 2 Landers Corners Rd CORT 15 Oct, flyover.

Semipalmated Plover: max 2 CannR 2 Sep.

Pectoral Sandpiper: max 6 Moran Rd CHEN 30 Sep, ph, (MD).
Wilson's Snipe: max 5 ULCP 30 Oct; 2 BMF 28 Nov.
Lesser Yellowlegs: max 6 SHM 6 Sep, ph.
Greater Yellowlegs: max 5 MHL 4 Nov.

BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE (R4): CannR 13 Nov, ph, (LVerderame).
Bonaparte's Gull: max 3 DorP 20 Nov.
Lesser Black-backed Gull: DorP 13 Sep & 19 Nov, ph.
Caspian Tern: 2 DorP 13 Sep.
Common Tern: ULCP 5 Sep, only report.

Red-throated Loon: Chenango L CHEN 13-20 Nov, ph; Pepacton Res DELA 26-27 Nov.

Common Loon: max 150 BMF 20 Nov; 18 FMHW 13 Nov; both reports are of flyovers.

Great Egret: max 3 SHM 6-10 Sep; 3 OtsL 12 Sep; 3 SusRb 7 Oct.
Green Heron: max 11 Brick Pd TIOG 3 Sep.
Black-crowned Night-Heron: SHM 8 Sep, only report.

Glossy/White-faced Ibis: Blodgett Rd TIOG 17 Oct, mob.

NOTE: FMHW totals cover 27 August to 21 December; averages reflect 2001 to 2021 data, *intro.*
Black Vulture: total 0 FMHW.
Turkey Vulture: total 579 FMHW, 13% above avg.

Osprey: total 29 FMHW, 72% below avg.

Golden Eagle: total 125 FMHW, 30% below avg; BMF 2 Oct; 4 BMF 4 Nov.
Northern Harrier: total 48 FMHW, 19% below avg.
Sharp-shinned Hawk: total 414 FMHW, 15% below avg.
Cooper's Hawk: total 70 FMHW, 20% below avg.
Northern Goshawk: total 5 FMHW, 71% below avg.
Bald Eagle: total 246 FMHW, 39% above avg; many other rep; very widespread.
Red-shouldered Hawk: total 24 FMHW, 51% below avg.
Broad-winged Hawk: total 2044 FMHW, 24% above avg; 1000 BMF 15 Sep, (ATroyer).
Red-tailed Hawk: total 596 FMHW, 64% below avg; many other rep.
Rough-legged Hawk: total 0 FMHW; arr 2 Oxford CHEN 17 Nov, ph.

Long-eared Owl: OTSE 30 Oct, vocalizing from hemlock stand, (DD).

Northern Saw-whet Owl: BMF 14 Oct; MHL 4-5 Nov.

American Kestrel: total 86 FMHW, 12% below avg.
Merlin: total 24 FMHW, 12% below avg.
Peregrine Falcon: total 12 FMHW, 26% below avg; plus rep from Binghamton BROO of resident downtown pair.

Olive-sided Flycatcher: 2 BMF 12 Sep; T Scott CORT 13 Sep; Cannon Hole TIOG 18 Sep; StPd 19 Sep.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: Allison Hill Rd TIOG 11 Sep, ph; 6 other scattered reports.

Philadelphia Vireo: max 8 LHNC 16 Sep, ph.

Northern Shrike: ULCP 30 Oct -5 Nov; Richfield Springs OTSE 30 Oct; Stoller Hill Rd OTSE 21 Nov, on feeder!; Gardner Rd Vestal BROO Nov 18-24, ph; Titus Lake Rd DELA 20 Nov, another near a feeder.

Horned Lark: max 120 Van Alstine Rd OTSE 16 Nov.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: max 125 ULCP 6 Oct, abundant all over.
Golden-crowned Kinglet: max 20 ULCP 3 Oct.

Winter Wren: max 3 Chenango Valley SP 15 Oct.
Marsh Wren: last SHM 1 Nov.

Eastern Bluebird: max 27 BMF 28 Sep; 26 FMHW 7 Nov.
Gray-cheeked Thrush: max 4 LHNC 16 Sep, ph; 2 ULCP 24 Sep, ph.
Swainson's Thrush: max 17 Oxford CHEN (NFC) 29 Sep (DW).

American Pipit: max 40 Moran Rd CHEN 24 Oct, ph.

Evening Grosbeak: arr 2 Stoller Hill Rd OTSE 21 Oct; max 70 Stage Rd CHEN 20 Nov, ph; 75 reports thru the Region in October and November; irruption year.
Purple Finch: max 50 ULCP 16 Oct, (DN); greatest numbers coming thru the Region in Oct; irruption year.
Common Redpoll: 2 BMF 9 Nov, flyover.
Red Crossbill: max 8 Arctic-China SF DELA 26 Nov; 3 other scattered reports.
Pine Siskin: max 3 ULCP 3 Oct; 3 Landers Corners Rd CORT 15 Oct; 11 other reports mostly of singles.

Snow Bunting: max 2 Worcester OTSE 5-6 Nov; 6 other scattered reports in Nov.

American Tree Sparrow: max 15 Brick Pd TIOG 26 Nov.
Vesper Sparrow: max 3 Moran Rd CHEN 18 Oct.
Nelson's Sparrow: MHL 30 Sep, ph; Brick Pd TIOG 12 Oct.
Lincoln's Sparrow: max 5 BMF 24 Sep.

Rusty Blackbird: max 18 ULCP 4 Nov (DN); 8 ULCP 23 &30 Oct; 20 reports with small numbers; last FMHW 20 Nov.

Worm-eating Warbler: King St BROO 1 Sep, (DW).
Tennessee Warbler: max 12 LHNC 16 Sep.
Orange-crowned Warbler: 7 reports in BROO and CORT in late Sep and Oct.
Connecticut Warbler: ULCP 16 & 24 Sep, ph; LHNC 16 Sep, ph; Hawkins Pd SF BROO 17 Sep; T Maryland OTSE 27 Sep; Brick Pd Owego TIOG 8 Oct.
Mourning Warbler: West River Rd CORT 11 Sep; Hickories P TIOG 11 Sep.
Hooded Warbler: max 2 West River Rd CORT 11 Sep.
Cape May Warbler: max 15 NMSF 4 Sep.

REGION 5—ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

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Fall 2022 began with a September average maximum of 72.4° F, close to the historical number. Average minimum overnights of 55.6° were 2.9° warmer than usual. Rainfall of 4.0" was 0.7" above expected. Only 14 days were partly sunny or better and only three characterized as 'fair' skies, indicating no long periods of high pressure. Of 30 days in the month, 28 had measurable rain and a surprising 17 had fog. October was warm and very dry with an average maximum of 64°, 3.9° above normal. At 41.1° overnight lows were 1.3° cooler than expected. With only eight days having rain the month finished at 1.1", 2.8" less than usual and tenth driest on record. Though only three days were blue sky, 18 more were partly-sunny. Following the trend of recent years, November's average max of 53.9° was 5.6° above normal with overnights 3.7° warmer than usual at 36.4°. Rainfall was 4.4", 1.1" above the typical value, with an impressive 24-hour total of 2.6" on the 11-12th of the month. Snowfall was 6.1" less than normal at 3.7". Fog was recorded on half the days, with only 14 being partly-sunny or better. It was the ninth warmest November on record.

As expected in modern times, there were few reports of Snow Goose and no large numbers. One of the last to move, the species is spurred by hard ground frost to our north that makes it difficult to pull vegetation out by the roots. But for a **Greater White-fronted Goose** found by Martin Mau at Jamesville Beach on 29 September, there were few other goose highlights. Fall migration of ducks was as expected with dabblers dominating early and wintering or passing divers dominating late. Northern Pintail passed Derby Hill in numbers in early October, while at Fair Haven good counts of Gadwall, American Wigeon, Mallard, and American Black Duck were submitted. Woodman Pond continued to be a late-fall hotspot for Ring-necked Duck. It may surprise some to learn that scoters are among the first divers to reach us in any number, arriving in late September and early October. The Surf variety peaked at 36 flying past Derby Hill on 7 October while the site noted 175 White-winged on the 20th. A count of 12 Black Scoter on 16 November was notable for Oneida Lake where at least a few of the species often linger until freeze-over. Only one report of Canvasback was received: seven at Onondaga Lake on 26 November. 200 Bufflehead at Fair Haven was a good count on 21 November while a week later the site hosted 340 Hooded Mergansers. 25 Ruddy Ducks were noted in Fulton on 22 October. Though late to arrive in numbers, Common Goldeneye reports were few and counts were poor.

Cuckoos are early migrants with Black-billed in particular seldom seen in fall. Matt Perry carefully documented a juvenile bird in Clinton on 7 November, a Regional record-late and among only a handful of records for the month showing in eBird for the northeast. Late but not unprecedented for the area was a Yellow-

billed Cuckoo found on 1 October by Santos and Jamie Rodriguez at the Hancock Airpark spot south of Taft Road in the Town of Cicero. A few Common Nighthawk lingered into September, the last being reported on the 10th. A surprising concentration of American Coot in Muskrat Bay on Oneida Lake was enjoyed by many visiting Oneida Shores Park and peaked at 250 birds on 23 November. A somewhat early last-report of Sandhill Crane in the Region was 2 October, flights later in fall sometimes contributing to big numbers at Montezuma. Not a species to stick around once the first chill is felt, Chimney Swift was last reported on 10 September.

Diligent readers of this report will recall that very low water levels at Sandy Pond during the summer season led to large mud flats nearly connecting Carl Island to the outlet channel south spit. Excellent shorebird habitat continued into the fall season with the (slightly) higher parts of the shoal having been out of water for months and growing vegetation. Among scarce but regular passage migrants to be expected at the site, only Long-billed Dowitcher, Willet, and Red-necked Phalarope were missed in fall (and all three were noted in summer). Matthew Brown discovered two Whimbrel and a Red Knot on 5 September and a Hudsonian Godwit on the 25th. Stilt Sandpiper was reported there mid-month. Always scarce, the migration's only Buff-breasted Sandpiper was seen by Brown on 5-6 September at Sandy. As a Central Flyway migrant in spring, a 2-3 week late-summer window is the only opportunity birders have to locate the species. Kennedy Sullivan commented on what a poor fall season it had been for Ruddy Turnstone, Sanderling, and Dunlin with no big flocks and few reports. David Wheeler and Brown both noted with disappointment how quickly it seemed the big shorebird numbers of August tailed off in early September, the peak of their migration clearly over at least as it was seen at Sandy Pond. Meanwhile, Brown discovered that the Salmon River estuary visible from Selkirk Shores State Park was so low as to be attracting substantial late shorebird interest, an unusual scenario. Frequent checks of the spot yielded seasonal maxima for Dunlin (20), White-rumped Sandpiper (16), Pectoral Sandpiper (33), and Lesser Yellowlegs (29) as well as last-of-season for eight species and a lingering Hudsonian Godwit. Gregg Dashnau contributed the year's only Purple Sandpiper from the usual spot at Fair Haven on 29 November, qualifying for the fall *Kingbird* report by only two days. A late Greater Yellowlegs on Oneida Lake on 26 November missed making the winter report by only five days. An American Woodcock in the same area on the 25th was similarly situated.

The Derby Hill Lakewatch that commences on strong west to northwest winds yielded few surprises this fall. Wheeler observed two adult Black-legged Kittiwakes on 7 October, and juvenile/first-winter birds on 7, 17, and 25 November with a Little Gull present on the 17th. Careful watching produced five Parasitic Jaeger on 7 October, and six for Wheeler and Mau on 22 September. Dashnau added one from his reliable harbor-watch at Oswego on 8 October. A bird identified as Pomarine Jaeger on 7 November was the season's only. No decent flights of Bonaparte's Gull or Dunlin were observed from the Lakewatch;

the only meaningful numbers of the gull were on Oneida Lake. Glaucous Gull, a November arrival, was missed this season. Matt Brown located a returning 'Great Lakes Gull' Herring x Great Black-backed hybrid at Selkirk. Decent Caspian and Common Tern numbers at Sandy rapidly dwindled as September wore on, with few late-season Commons lingering on Oneida Lake or Sylvan Beach. Early October can sometimes feature impressive numbers there. Gary Chapin grabbed five Forster's Terns at Sandy on 9 September, Brown noting seven there on the 11th, both excellent numbers for the Region. One remained by the 17th and Dashnau added a bird from Fair Haven on 19 October.

Thirty Red-throated Loons were noted from Oswego Harbor on 21 November, a good count. A few Black-crowned Night-Heron were noted from expected places; ditto for Black Vulture. Mickey Scilingo saw an early Golden Eagle from his Constantia migration-watch on 30 September, noting it to be an immature bird. Ten Cooper's Hawks passed the same day. Continuing Sandy Pond surveys into November, Matt Brown caught a late Osprey on 3 November. A New York State Ornithological Association (NYSOA) field trip there on 2 October found five Harriers and 21 Red-tails moving through. The Bishop Road hawk watch, which is best on northeast winds, gave Bill Purcell 145 Broad-winged Hawks on 6 September. The first Rough-legged Hawks arrived in late November; no Snowy Owls were noted this period. Dashnau found a Long-eared Owl at Three Rivers on 14 October but its Short-eared cousin was missed. Red-headed Woodpeckers continued at known locations with juvenile birds in Hastings, Kirkville, and Clinton noted in early September. Olive-sided Flycatcher was noted at several locations through 10 September. Very few of either species formerly lumped as 'Traill's Flycatcher' were reported. This likely reflects their early departure but also the difficulty in separating non-singing empids. The editor notes also how few 'Willow/Alder' and 'empidonax sp' were submitted.

Very rare in modern times, a **Loggerhead Shrike** was found by Dashnau on 2 September in a farm field near Hannibal. The Region 5 record archive compiled by Marge Rusk provides a historical perspective. From the 1960s through '80s the species was fairly common on the Ontario Lakeshore in spring, mostly between mid-March and mid-April, with multiple birds found most years and peaking in 1972 when 20 birds were seen. Most of these were observed passing Derby Hill (even before there was a formal hawk watch) with a single-day total of five on 18 April. It was an occasional nester on the Lake plain and several other locations throughout this period, with the last confirmed breeding in the Region attributed to 1 June 1975 when a pair tending four eggs was documented near Mexico. Some summer records (May-July) were single, presumably unmated, birds. Occasional fall-migration sightings in August to mid-October were always of single birds. Consequently, the core range of dates of the species' presence has little if any overlap with Northern Shrike. By 1990 Loggerhead was annual at best and down to only 1-2 reports/decade in the 2000s.

Several late Bank Swallows were seen at Fair Haven on 19 and 21 October. Kevin Topping photographed the season's only **Bohemian Waxwing** at his home

patch in Salisbury. None of the three boreal species presumed resident in northern Herkimer county were reported this fall. The annual NYSOA meeting was sponsored by the Onondaga Audubon Society and held in Oswego over the first weekend in October. It featured many productive field trips as well as a night-migration monitoring station set up by Bill Evans and Benjamin Van Doren, the night of 1 October proving to be excellent for listening. Night Flight Calls of six Gray-cheeked Thrush and 37 Swainson's were detected along with a Great Blue Heron, 70 White-throated Sparrows, 19 Savannah, a few Northern Parula, Black-throated Blue, Palm, and Yellow-rumped Warblers, and a Rose-breasted Grosbeak. An additional 75 warbler NFCs were not identified to species.

Flocks of 380 Horned Larks and 120 American Pipits were found on Bishop Road near Pulaski by Matt Brown on 19 November and 25 October, respectively. The spot is known for attracting good numbers of field birds. It was not a particularly strong season for winter finches. A few Evening Grosbeaks were seen in typical locations plus 15 noted by Bryan Rutledge in Manlius on 31 October. As usual, Purple Finch was hard to come by in the low-lying basins of Ontario and Oneida Lake but represented in the upland forested areas of the southern highlands and Herkimer County. Three reports of single Common Redpolls were received, clearly not an invasion year for them. Red Crossbills continued in established locations such as Morgan Hill State Forest and the Adirondacks of northern Herkimer. Pine Siskin was reported only from typical locations plus 11 intercepted flying by Fair Haven on 28 October by Dashnau. Readers may be surprised to learn how early Lapland Longspur arrive in our Region, shown by a bird at the Jamesville Reservoir park found by Drew Weber on 24 September and another at Fair Haven on 1 October found by a NYSOA field trip. Shoreline areas seem to be the best place to look for these first arrivals. Snow Bunting numbers peaked at Sandy Pond on 3 November and Fair Haven on the 9th.

Matt Brown came up with the season's only Clay-colored Sparrow at his feeders on 18 September. There was a good showing of Vesper Sparrow in Pennellville with nine noted on 27 October, likely a fall-season maxima for the Region at least in recent times. An excellent count of nine Lincoln's Sparrow were tallied along the west shore of Onondaga Lake on 29 September. Fox Sparrow was reported from 15 October to 28 November. Brown counted 23 Eastern Meadowlarks at Bishop Road on 8 October. The species is very inconspicuous during the fall season. Rusty Blackbird numbers peaked at 250 on 24 October at Three Rivers, while over at Hamlin Marsh in Clay Wheeler estimated 50,000 mixed blackbirds flying in to roost on 1 November and caught the last 10,000 of a large flight along the Onondaga Lake outlet on 30 October. Drew Weber also estimated a 50,000-bird roost flight from the end of the Onondaga Lake Creekwalk on 6 November. These epic late-October/early-November roost flights of icterids are a known phenomenon and can be intercepted wherever a good view and attractive cattail marsh exist.

There were some good warbler highlights this fall. Always scarce, Orange-crowned put in appearances at several locations from mid-September to mid-

October. A record-late Tennessee Warbler was found on the West Shore Trail at Onondaga Lake by John Garrett on 24 November. One of our rarest regular passage migrants, a **Connecticut Warbler** was found by Mau at the Hancock Airpark woods that borders the north side of the airport. Another was found on Howland Island during the Montezuma Muckrace on 17 September. A Cerulean Warbler seen by Bill McConnell in Cazenovia on 4 September was unusual; it is a nester in the Region but seldom found for the fall season. Terrific counts of Bay-breasted were turned in by Aidan Perkins from Thornden Park and Deborah Dohne from Oakwood Cemetery. While birding in the evening at Oneida Shores Park on 13 September, Santos Rodriguez caught a brief look and diagnostic photograph of a **Yellow-throated Warbler** in the trees near the boat launch. Another birder nearby was alerted to the bird, but light was fading fast and within 10 minutes the cause was lost to dusk. Elizabeth Frascatore carefully described an Indigo Bunting on the late date of 20 October in the town of Manheim. Last but not least, Dashnau heard the flight call of a **Dickcissel** passing overhead at the Great Bear Woods near Fulton on 26 October. As luck would have it, Dashnau had Merlin running and was able to record the "brrrrt" call of the species during his brief engagement with it.

Region 5 currently has five operating MOTUS stations located at Derby Hill, Three Rivers WMA, Rome WMA, Utica Zoo, and a site four miles south of Williamstown known as 'Fassler'. These register radio-tagged birds that fly through their 15-mile-diameter circle of detection. As one might expect, there is plenty to report for a migratory season. About a dozen *Swainson's Thrush* were picked up at our stations, mostly Derby Hill, with all but two tagged near Montreal, Quebec (the others near Columbus, OH) prior in the summer/fall of the year. Dates of detection ranged from 17 September to 5 October and most of these birds subsequently checked in from various locations around the Florida panhandle, then some from Mexico, Costa Rica, and Colombia. Of particular interest was a bird tagged in Quebec on 21 October, quite a late date, and picked up on the Derby Hill hawk watch antenna four days later. It was next heard from at a hawk watch in Costa Rica on 25 November, forming an interesting and unexpected connectivity between hawk watches. Another that passed Derby in early October later completed a lengthy one-day flight from near Atlanta, GA to the Yucatan peninsula, seemingly possible under favorable weather conditions. The same date, 19 October, another Swainson's Thrush which passed through our area completed roughly the same flight, supporting the notion of good migratory winds over the Gulf during the period.

A *Wood Thrush* passing the Derby station on 15 September had been tagged the previous March in Nicaragua and checked in near Atlanta on 3 October. The station at Rome contributed three *Hermit Thrush* from 27 October, one being detected near Frederick, MD the next day and another near Atlanta a week later. Fassler recorded a *Tennessee Warbler* on 30 September, next picked up in Georgia on 29 October, illustrating a rather leisurely travel itinerary south through eastern North America. Perhaps this is a bird wintering in the Caribbean Islands, a

relatively short over-water flight, and in no particular hurry to exploit good weather. Or perhaps the opposite is true—a bird carefully preparing for a long trans-Gulf flight and waiting on the most favorable of winds. Two *Purple Finches* were detected in mid-October, having been tagged at Tadoussac, Quebec on 21 September. A *Rusty Blackbird* tagged in northern New Hampshire in early June passed Rome on 27 October and next checked in from South Carolina a month later. Other detections of shorter-distance migrants included *Horned Lark* and *Yellow-rumped Warbler*. All birds picked up this period had been tagged within the previous six months.

This season a total of 243 species and two hybrids were reported, which is one above the recent 10-year average for the Region. Highlights included: **Greater White-fronted Goose**, Sandhill Crane, Whimbrel, Hudsonian Godwit, Red Knot, Purple Sandpiper, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Pomarine Jaeger, Parasitic Jaeger, Black-legged Kittiwake, Little Gull, Forster's Tern, Black Vulture, Golden Eagle, Long-eared Owl, **Loggerhead Shrike**, **Bohemian Waxwing**, Evening Grosbeak, Red Crossbill, Clay-colored Sparrow, **Connecticut Warbler**, **Yellow-throated Warbler**, and **Dickcissel**.

Expected species that were missed this fall include Long-billed Dowitcher, all the phalaropes, Glaucous Gull, Snowy Owl, and Short-eared Owl. Known or presumed nesters for the Region usually missed in fall—including this fall—include Whip-poor-will, Upland Sandpiper, Black Tern, Acadian Flycatcher, Sedge Wren, Grasshopper Sparrow, Orchard Oriole, Louisiana Waterthrush, Golden-winged Warbler, Prothonotary Warbler, Prairie Warbler, and the three boreal specialties present in northern Herkimer County (Black-backed Woodpecker, Canada Jay, Boreal Chickadee). Some of these are presumed to depart in August and are thus gone by the start of the fall season on 1 September; others are uncommon enough (or restricted mainly to the southern part of the Region) as nesters as to be easily missed; still others are always inconspicuous and/or require special effort to find. Absent from this list is Black-billed Cuckoo, Least Bittern and Cerulean Warbler, found once this season but usually missed in fall. Other species represented by only one record include: Canvasback, Whimbrel, Red Knot, Purple Sandpiper; Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Pomarine Jaeger, Little Gull, and Clay-colored Sparrow.

Fall 2022 produced 67,678 eBird records on 5,719 checklists for Region 5, and were processed by Swan Swan Hummingbird v6.1. Reports were submitted by 558 people. With so many submitting to eBird, the editor would like to share how the 'Contributor' names below are compiled. Names appear in the list if at least one of the following four criteria are met: (1) a person's initials are used in the 'Synopsis' section; (2) a person submits a written list of sightings to the editor; (3) a person is the only one contributing from a particular part of the Region that would otherwise have no reports; or (4) a person submits above a 'participation threshold' number of eBird records which varies by season and was set at 150 for this report. Most listed below qualified under (4) but rest assured that all submissions contribute to this report.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

ADK – Adirondacks, n. HERK; **BW** – Baltimore Woods, Marcellus; **BLNC** – Beaver L Nature Center, Baldwinsville; **Brew** – Oneida L at Brewerton; **BRH** – Bishop Road Hawk Watch, T Richland; **Bville** – Baldwinsville; **Const** – Oneida L at Constantia; **DB** – Ditch Bank Rd & vicinity, T Sullivan/Lenox, MADI; **DC** – Deer Creek Marsh, T Richland; **DH** – Derby Hill, T Mexico; **DL** – Delta L; **Dolge** – Dolgeville, HERK; **FH** – Fair Haven, Little Sodus Bay, and West Barrier Bar; **Fult** – Fulton area including Oswego Ri, Indian Pt, L Neatahwanta; **GB** – Great Bear Rec Area, Fulton; **Gerber** – Gerber Topsoil, Oxbow Rd, T Cicero; **GLSP** – Green Lakes SP, Fayetteville; **HA** – Hancock Airpark, T Cicero; **HF** – Highland Forest CP; **HI** – Howland I WMA, CAYU; **HM** – Hamlin Marsh, Clay; **HV** – Happy Valley WMA, Parish; **KK** – Kindred Kingdom Wildlife Center, Pennellville; **LH** – Labrador Hollow Unique Area; **LOnt** – L Ontario; **LoopR** – Loop Rd, Montezuma NWR, CAYU; **MCL** – Madison County Landfill; **MexPt**

– Mexico Pt SP; **MH** – Morgan Hill State Forest, Fabius; **MSI** – Madison St Impoundment, Hamilton; **MW** – McKoons Rd Wetland, Colombia Center, s. HERK; **OakC** – Oakwood Cemetery, Syracuse; **OF** – Old Forge; **OLC** – Onondaga L Creekwalk; **OneiL** – Oneida L; **OnonL** – Onondaga L; **OLP** – Onondaga L P (east and west shore); **OSP** – Oneida Shores P, Brewerton; **OswH** – Oswego Harbor; **Phx** – Phoenix dam area; **PPt** – Oneida L at Phillips Pt, W Monroe; **PSS** – Peter Scott Swamp, Phoenix; **PV** – Pleasant Valley Pres, T Onondaga; **RCFS** – Rice Creek Field Station, Oswego; **RRP** – Radisson Ri P, Three Rivers confluence, Phoenix; **SBP** – Sunset Bay P, Scriba; **SFNS** – Spring Farm Nature Sanctuary, Kirkland; **Sithe** – trails at Independence P, formerly Sithe Energy, Scriba; **SH** – Southern Highlands of ONON & MADI; **SHTF** – Sky High Turf Farm, Chittenango; **Skan** – Skaneateles; **SNC** – Sterling Nature Center, Sterling; **SP** – Sandy Pd and vicinity; **SSSP** – Selkirk Shores SP; **SVB** – Sylvan & Verona Beach; **Syr** – Syracuse; **TNP** – Tuscarora Nature P, MADI; **TR** – Three Rivers WMA, Lysander; **UM** – Utica Marsh; **VBSP** – Verona Beach SP; **WH** – Whiskey Hollow, Memphis; **WP** – Woodman Pd, Hamilton.

Snow Goose: singles var locs 9 Sept – 22 Oct, may have summered locally or early arrivals; arr 5 Rome 26 Oct; 20 Bouckville 4 Nov; max 40 FH 29 Nov but few Nov reps & low nums.
GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE (R5): Jamesville 29 Sep (MMa); only rep.
Brant: arr 50 DH 7 Oct; max 300 DH 27 Oct.
Cackling Goose: 1-2 rep 10 var locs & dates, 16 Sep thru.
Canada Goose: widespread; max est 5000 WP 25 Oct.
Mute Swan: most reps OnonL & FH; max 45 FH 29 Nov.
Trumpeter Swan: 1-4 at expected locs; max 7 FH 29 Nov (GDa).
Tundra Swan: arr 3 FH 9 Nov; max 110 Port Byron 29 Nov.
Wood Duck: max 80 UM 20 Oct.
Blue-winged Teal: max 13 SNC 29 Sep; last 2 OnonL 27 Oct.
Northern Shoveler: max 12 FH 19 Oct & 29 Nov.
Gadwall: max 40 FH 22 Nov.
American Wigeon: max 340 FH 17 Oct, good num; best nums FH.
Mallard: widespread; max est 1000 FH 21 Nov.
American Black Duck: max 60 FH 21 Nov.
Mallard x American Black Duck (hybrid): FH 1 Oct; only rep.
Northern Pintail: max 400 DH 7 Oct.
Green-winged Teal: max 136 SP 28 Sep.
Canvasback: 7 OnonL 26 Nov; only rep.
Redhead: arr 2 FH 1 Oct; max 350 FH 21 Nov.
Ring-necked Duck: 1-2 sev locs early Sep; arr 4 FH 16 Sep; max 530 WP 13 Nov.
Greater Scaup: arr 2 OneiL 17 Sep; max 400 SVB 29 Nov.
Lesser Scaup: arr OnonL 16 Sep; max 200 FH 21 Nov.
Surf Scoter: arr OnonL 2 Oct; 16 SP 8 Oct, good num; max 36 DH 7 Oct.
White-winged Scoter: arr 2 OswH 28 Sep; max 175 DH 20 Oct.
Black Scoter: arr 3 DH 7 Oct; max 12 OneiL 16 Nov, good num.
Long-tailed Duck: arr 3 DH 7 Oct; max 345 DH 12 Nov.
Bufflehead: arr SSSP 12 Oct; max 200 FH 21 Nov, good num.
Common Goldeneye: arr 2 SkanL 3 Nov; max 13 Eagle Bay 20 Nov; few reps & poor nums.
Hooded Merganser: max 340 FH 29 Nov, exc num.

Common Merganser: max 62 SNC 23 Oct.
Red-breasted Merganser: max 560 FH 24 Nov.
Ruddy Duck: arr Salmon R Res 28 Sept; max 25 Fulton 22 Oct.

Wild Turkey: max 26 Phoenix 27 Nov.
Ruffed Grouse: small nums var locs.
Ring-necked Pheasant: small nums var locs, most presumably released by state.

Pied-billed Grebe: max 11 WP 27 Oct & UM 22 Oct.
Horned Grebe: arr 5 SP 24 Oct; max 17 DH 3 Nov.
Red-necked Grebe: arr OSP 2 Oct; max 3 OnonL 26 Nov; poor nums.

Rock Pigeon: flocks widespread; max 125 Bville 6 Oct.
Mourning Dove: widespread; max 76 OLP 11 Nov.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: singles 5 locs 2 Sep – 10 Sep; last HA 1 Oct, late (SRo, JRo, ph).
Black-billed Cuckoo: Poolville 19 Sep, late; juv SFNS 7 Nov (MPe), Reg rec late, carefully observed and described; only reps.

Common Nighthawk: max 5 Const 1 Sep; last HI 10 Sep.
Eastern Whip-poor-will: no reps.

Chimney Swift: max 50 OLC 5 Sep; last 2 HI 10 Sep.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: max 9 Fville 4 Sep & Cassville 2 Sep; last Eagle Bay 9 Oct, late.

Virginia Rail: reps 7 locs to mid Sep; last TR 29 Sep.
Sora: Salisbury 17 Sep; Minetto 2 Oct, unusual locs; only reps.
Common Gallinule: reps typ locs; max 26 UM 10 Sep; last OnonL 25 Oct.

American Coot: max est 250 OSP 23 Nov, exc num; good nums in Reg.

Sandhill Crane: 3 Cato 2 Sep; 1-2 HI 10-20 Sep; 3 Phoenix 15 Sep, nested; 3 TR 29 Sep; last 2 SP 2 Oct; only reps.

Black-bellied Plover: 10 SP 2 Oct; max 13 SP 25 Sep; last SSSP 25 Oct.
American Golden-Plover: 1-2 SP 4-28 Sep; Volney 28 Sep; OLP 29 Sep; last Gerber 29-30 Sep.
Killdeer: max est 100 Hannibal 2 Sep.
Semipalmated Plover: max 28 SP 6 Sep; last SSSP 25 Sep.

Upland Sandpiper: no reps.
Whimbrel: 2 SP 5 Sep (MBr); only rep.
Hudsonian Godwit: SP 25-26 Sep (MBr); SSSP 9-18 Oct (MBr, mob); only reps.
Ruddy Turnstone: 1-2 SP 4-11 Sep (KSu); FH 6, 7, 13 Sep; only reps, poor nums.
Red Knot: SP 5 Sep (MBr); only rep.
Stilt Sandpiper: SP 6, 7, 15 Sep (MBr); only reps.
Sanderling: max 10 FH 13 Sep; last SP 24 Oct; poor nums.
Dunlin: max 20 SSSP 16 & 25 Oct; last FH 9 Nov.
Purple Sandpiper: FH 29 Nov (GDa); only rep.
Baird's Sandpiper: 1 - max 3 SP 4 – last 15 Sep; Gerber 5 Sep.
Least Sandpiper: max 20 DB 3 Sep; last 2 SSSP 11 Oct.
White-rumped Sandpiper: max 16 SSSP 23 Oct (MBr), exc num; last SSSP 5 Nov, late.
Buff-breasted Sandpiper: SP 5-6 Sep (MBr); only rep.
Pectoral Sandpiper: max 33 SSSP 13 Oct; last 3 SSSP 5 Nov.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 30 SP 2 Oct; last SSSP 25 Oct, late.
Short-billed Dowitcher: 1-2 SP 16, 21 Sep; only reps.
Long-billed Dowitcher: no reps.

American Woodcock: 1-2 var locs 7 Sep – last 25 Nov.
Wilson's Snipe: 1-4 var locs 5 Sep – 29 Oct; max 7 Alder Creek 29 Sep; last 2 SSSP 2 Nov.
Spotted Sandpiper: max 4 OLP 11 Sep; last Syr 3 Oct.
Solitary Sandpiper: max 3 var locs 5-13 Sep; last Earlville 1 Oct.
Lesser Yellowlegs: max 29 SSSP 14 Oct; last 8 SSSP 6 Nov.
Greater Yellowlegs: max 14 SP 5 Sep; last Canastota 26 Nov, late.
Phalaropes: no rep of any phalarope.

Pomarine Jaeger: DH 7 Nov (DWh, MBr); only rep.
Parasitic Jaeger: 5 DH 22 Sep (MMa); & 7 Oct (DWh); max 6 DH 22 Sep (DWh); OswH 8 Oct (GDa); DH 25 Nov (DWh); only reps.
Black-legged Kittiwake: 2 DH 7 Oct (DWh), 25 Nov (DWh); DH 7, 17 Nov (DWh); only reps.
Bonaparte's Gull: max 275 SVB 15 Nov.
Little Gull: DH 17 Nov (DWh); only rep.
Ring-billed Gull: widespread; max est 1900 SVB 22 Oct.
Herring Gull: max est 1500 SVB 29 Nov.
Iceland Gull: arr MCL 15 Nov; max 7 MCL 29 Nov; 3 other reps.
Lesser Black-backed Gull: 1 - max 3 typ locs 15-29 Nov.
Glaucous Gull: no reps.
Great Black-backed Gull: max 50 SVB 22 Nov.
Herring x Great Black-backed Gull (hybrid): SSSP 11-25 Oct (MBr, MSc).
Caspian Tern: max 82 SP 7 Sep; last 2 SP 4 Oct.
Black Tern: no reps.
Common Tern: max 87 SP 7 Sep.
Forster's Tern: 5 SP 9 Sep (GCh); max 7 SP 11 Sep (MBr), exc num; SP 17 Sep (JMc); last FH 19 Oct (GDa); only reps.

Red-throated Loon: arr SP 24 Oct; max 30 OswH 21 Nov.
Common Loon: max 78 FH 8 Nov.

Double-crested Cormorant: max est 3000 SP 10 Oct.

American Bittern: HI 17 Sep; UM 19, 22 Oct; Old Forge 23 Oct; only reps.
Least Bittern: HI 17 Sep; only rep.
Great Blue Heron: max 23 Jordan 24 Sep.
Great Egret: max 4 var locs 1-11 Sep; last 2 OnonL 14 Oct.
Green Heron: max 18 NFC Syr 22 Sep (DWe); last WP 27 Oct.
Black-crowned Night-Heron: Rome 4 Sep; max 5 OLC 8 Sep; 1-2 OLP & OLC 16 Sep – last 23 Oct; only reps.

Black Vulture: reps continue known locs Jamesville, Oneida, Little Falls, Rome, Canastota; Fulton 21 Sep (GDa), unusual loc; max 8 Jville 17 Nov.
Turkey Vulture: max 220 SSSP 8 Oct.

Osprey: max 4 OLP 5 Sep; last SP 3 Nov (MBr), late.

Golden Eagle: Const 30 Sep (MSc), early; 5 other reps singles 3-26 Nov.
Northern Harrier: max 5 SP 2 Oct.
Sharp-shinned Hawk: max 5 BRH 17 Sep & Const 30 Sep.
Cooper's Hawk: max 10 Const 30 Sep.
Bald Eagle: imm & adults var locs; max 14 SNC 23 Sep.
Red-shouldered Hawk: 1-2 var locs/dates.
Broad-winged Hawk: max 145 BRH 6 Sep; last GB 4 Oct.
Red-tailed Hawk: widespread; max 21 SP 2 Oct.
Rough-legged Hawk: arr Little Falls & Richland 21 Nov; reps 4 locs 23-27 Nov.

Eastern Screech-Owl: singles/pairs typical locs.
Great Horned Owl: widespread resident.

Snowy Owl: no reps.
Barred Owl: widespread resident; reps typ locs.
Long-eared Owl: TR 14 Oct (GDa).
Short-eared Owl: no reps.
Northern Saw-whet Owl: 3 Thendara 15 Oct (GLe), banded, & 16 Oct; SFNS 24 Nov (MPe); Manlius 26 Nov (CSp); only reps.

Belted Kingfisher: widespread; max 7 OLC 16 Oct.

Red-headed Woodpecker: reps from established locs incl 4 FH 2, 4 Sep, ad & 2 juv; Hastings 4 Sep; Kirkville 12 Sep; SFNS 14 Sep; unusual locs.
Red-bellied Woodpecker: widespread resident.
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 1 – max 3 var locs/dates thru.
Black-backed Woodpecker: no reps but presumed resident N HERK.
Downy Woodpecker: widespread resident.
Hairy Woodpecker: widespread resident.
Northern Flicker: widespread; max 12 OakC 10 Sep.
Pileated Woodpecker: widespread resident.

American Kestrel: max 6 Earlville 1 Sep & BRH 6 Sep.
Merlin: 1-2 var locs/dates thru.
Peregrine Falcon: singles/nesting pairs typ locs plus scattered reps.

Great Crested Flycatcher: max 3 Hastings 1, 2 Sep & GB 6 Sep; last HI 17 Sep.
Eastern Kingbird: max 3 Verona 6 Sep & Phoenix 11 Sep; last New Hartford 29 Sep.
Olive-sided Flycatcher: OakC 7, 8 Sep (DDo); OSP 8 Sep (GCh); last HI 10 Sep; only reps.
Eastern Wood-Pewee: max 10 Syr 8 Sep; last OLP 5 Oct.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 1-2 var typ locs 3 Sep – last 23 Sep.
Acadian Flycatcher: no reps.
Alder Flycatcher: Hastings (BPu) & OakC (APe) 2 Sep; only reps.
Willow Flycatcher: SP 9 Sep (MBr); only rep.
'Traill's Flycatcher': Syr 5 Sep; PV 24 Sep; only reps.
Least Flycatcher: max 5 HA 1 Sep; last OSP 24 Sep.
empidonax sp: 1-3 var locs 2-20 Sep; max 4 GB 6 Sep; last SBP 1 Oct.
Eastern Phoebe: max 8 OLP 30 Sep; last Little Falls 27 Oct.

Yellow-throated Vireo: max 12 HI 10 Sep; last OSP 18 Sep.
Blue-headed Vireo: max 3 var locs 24 Sep; last Const 24 Oct.
Philadelphia Vireo: max 4 HI 17 Sep; last SBP 1 Oct.
Warbling Vireo: max 7 HI 10 Sep; last Granby 21 Sep.
Red-eyed Vireo: max 14 GB 6 Sep; last OSP 5 Oct.

LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE: Hannibal 2, 3 Sep (GDa, ph, mob, DDo), very rare in modern times.
Northern Shrike: arr PV 2 Nov; Fabius 12 Nov; Stockwell 19 Nov; Manheim 28 Nov.

Canada Jay: no reps but presumed resident N HERK.
Blue Jay: widespread; max 6045 migr Const 17 Sep (MSc).
American Crow: widespread; max est 2000 Syr 22 Oct, roost flight.
Fish Crow: 1-4 typ locs thru; max 19 IH 25 Nov (MMa).
Common Raven: 1-5 typ locs thru; max 8 DB 15 Sep & Salisbury 30 Sep & Const 5 Nov & DH 7 Nov.

Black-capped Chickadee: widespread; max 72 Const 30 Sep (MSc), migrating.

Boreal Chickadee: no reps but presumed resident N HERK.
Tufted Titmouse: widespread resident except N HERK & N ONEI.

Horned Lark: max 380 BRH 19 Nov (MBr), exc num.

Bank Swallow: max 60 SP 5 Sep; last 30 HI 10 Sep but 2 FH 19 Oct (GDa) & 1 FH 21 Oct (GCh), very late.
Tree Swallow: est 600 HI 18 Sep; max est 800 HI 10 Sep; last SSSP 23 Oct.
Northern Rough-winged Swallow: max 50 HI 17 Sep; last 5 HI 20 Sep.
Purple Martin: max 70 Hannibal 4 Sep; last 2 Const 28 Sep.
Barn Swallow: max 60 SP 5 Sep; last OLP 30 Sep.
Cliff Swallow: Fult 2 Sep; 2 TR 4 Sep; max 12 SP 5 Sep; HI 10 Sep; last SNC 24 Sep; only reps.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: max 30 MH 25 Sep; 2 OLP 26 Nov; last OLP 29 Nov.
Golden-crowned Kinglet: max 46 DC 21 Oct; 5 OLP 29 Nov.

BOHEMIAN WAXWING (R5): Salisbury 23 Nov (KTo, ph); only rep.
Cedar Waxwing: max 100 TR 3 Sep.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: small groups typ locs; max 16 Earlville 10 Sep; 15 SSSP 20 Oct.
White-breasted Nuthatch: widespread resident; max 15 Const 30 Sep.

Brown Creeper: max 7 Syr 29 Sep.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: singles var locs 1-10 Sep; max 2 Dewitt 3 Sep; last North Bay 11 Sep, early for last rep; few reps, poor nums.

House Wren: max 7 OLP 16 Sep; last GSC 23 Oct, late.
Winter Wren: max 6 TR 24 Sep; 1-2 thru Oct; MH 23 Nov.

Sedge Wren: no reps.
Marsh Wren: max 15 HI 10 Sep; last PV 8 Nov.
Carolina Wren: small nums typ locs, mostly ONON.

Gray Catbird: max 20 OSP 13, 15 Sep; last OLP 27 Nov.
Brown Thrasher: max 3 SFNS 14 Sep; last Syr 8 Oct.
Northern Mockingbird: singles/pairs typ locs, mostly ONON.

European Starling: max est 2500 Pulaski 1 Oct.

Eastern Bluebird: max 27 Const 28 Oct, migrants.
Veery: max 5 Syr by NFC; last WMonroe 26 Sep.
Gray-cheeked Thrush: arr 2 TR 17 Sep; max 6 Osw by NFC 1 Oct (JAm, mob); last OSP 2 Oct.
Swainson's Thrush: 19 Syr by NFC 28 Sep (APe); 27 Osw by NFC 1 Oct (JAm, mob); max 37 Syr by NFC 22 Sep (DWe); last 5 SVB 6 Oct, early for last rep.
Hermit Thrush: max 3 SFNS 9 Oct & FH 25 Oct.
Wood Thrush: max 6 TR 17 Sep; last Const 1 Oct.
American Robin: widespread; max 667 Const 2 Nov, migrants.

House Sparrow: flocks widespread resident; max 40 FH 24 Sep, unusual loc.

American Pipit: arr 3 SP 6 Sep; 50 Bville 9 Oct; 56 SP 24 Oct, good num; max 120 BRH 25 Oct (MBr), good num; last BRH 21 Nov.

Evening Grosbeak: arr 4 Dolgeville 11 Sep, next 22 Oct same loc; max 15 Manlius 31 Oct (BRu); small groups var locs late Oct thru.
House Finch: widespread resident; max 35 OLP 17 Oct.

Purple Finch: small groups typ locs; max 10 SFNS 22 Oct.
Common Redpoll: Cassville 8 Nov; Osw 17-18 Nov; Minetto 30 Nov; only reps.
Red Crossbill: small flocks typ locs SH & N HERK; max 13 MH 10 Nov.
White-winged Crossbill: no reps.
Pine Siskin: 1-4 var typ locs arr 8 Oct thru; max 11 FH 28 Oct (GDa), migr.
American Goldfinch: flocks common & widespread; max 92 DH 4 Nov.

Lapland Longspur: arr Jamesville 24 Sep (DWe); FH 1 Oct (mob); only reps.
Snow Bunting: arr 2 SP 24 Oct; max 64 SP 3 Nov & FH 9 Nov.

Grasshopper Sparrow: no reps.
Chipping Sparrow: max 28 Nedrow 29 Sep; last Hamilton 22 Nov.
Clay-colored Sparrow: Pulaski 18 Sep (MBr); only rep.
Field Sparrow: max 10 PV 8 Oct; last SNC 11 Nov.
Fox Sparrow: arr 2 LH 15 Oct; max 4 SFNS 6 Nov & Const 22 Nov; last Syr 28 Nov.
American Tree Sparrow: arr 3 Rome 26 Oct; max 20 OLP 23, 27 Nov.
Dark-eyed Junco: max 163 Const 27 Oct.
White-crowned Sparrow: arr MSI 23 Sep; max 13 sev locs 2-23 Oct; last Salisbury 20 Nov but incr in winter.
White-throated Sparrow: 70 Osw by NFC 1 Oct (JAm, mob); max 80 UM 14 Oct.
Vesper Sparrow: 1-2 sev locs Oct; max 9 Pennellville 27 Oct (APe), exc num; SP 24 Oct (MBr), unusual loc; last BRH 30 Oct.
Savannah Sparrow: 12 IH 5 Sep; max 19 Osw by NFC 1 Oct; last Bville 6 Nov.
Song Sparrow: widespread; max 90 OLP 1 Oct.
Lincoln's Sparrow: 1-3 var locs mid-late Sep; 7 TR 24 Sep, good num; max 9 OLP 29 Sep, exc num; last Syr 1 Nov.
Swamp Sparrow: 25 TR 29 Sep; max 37 HI 10 Sep.
Eastern Towhee: max 7 GLSP 21 Sep; last Osw 28 Oct.

Bobolink: max 22 TR 3 Sep; last Gerber 29 Sep.
Eastern Meadowlark: max 23 BRH 8 Oct; last Rome 4 Nov.
Orchard Oriole: no reps.
Baltimore Oriole: max 4 OakC 5 Sep; last Erieville 18 Sep.
Red-winged Blackbird: 895 Const 13 Nov; max est 2000 HI 14 Oct.
Brown-headed Cowbird: max 60 Kirkville 11 Sep.
Rusty Blackbird: arr SFNS 23 Sep; max 250 TR 24 Oct, good num; last OLP 27 Nov.
Common Grackle: max 8175 TR 24 Oct.
blackbird sp: est 10000 OLP 30 Oct; est 50000 HM 1 Nov & OLC 6 Nov.

Ovenbird: max 7 OakC 8 Sep; last FH 19 Oct, late.
Louisiana Waterthrush: no reps.
Northern Waterthrush: RCFS 4 Sep; 2 Dewitt 5 Sep; last 2 Trenton 6 Sep; only reps.
Golden-winged Warbler: no reps.
Blue-winged Warbler: singles few locs 2-8 Sep; last Hastings & HI 10 Sep.
'Brewster's Warbler': no reps.
'Lawrence's Warbler': no reps.
Black-and-white Warbler: max 4 OakC 5, 8 Sep; last Perryville 11 Oct.
Prothonotary Warbler: no reps.
Tennessee Warbler: max 13 HI 17 Sep; last SFNS 22 Oct, late; OLP 24 Nov (JGa), Reg rec late.
Orange-crowned Warbler: arr OakC 8 Sep; 1-2 sev locs mid Sep – mid Oct; last SP 15 Oct.
Nashville Warbler: max 5 OSP 15 Sep & OLP 29, 30 Sep; last Const 24 Oct.
CONNECTICUT WARBLER (R5): HA 15 Sep (MMa); HI 17, 18 Sep (mob).
Mourning Warbler: singles 6 locs 1-11 Sep; last OLP 16 Sep.

Common Yellowthroat: max 14 Salisbury 17 Sep; last SP & Const 24 Oct.
Hooded Warbler: singles var locs 2-20 Sep; last OLC & WP & TR 24 Sep.
American Redstart: max 32 HI 10 Sep; last HA 4 Oct.
Cape May Warbler: max 7 OSP 8 Sep; last WP 15 Oct.
Cerulean Warbler: Cazenovia 4 Sep (BMc); only rep.
Northern Parula: max 6 OSP 24 Sep; last Const 2 Nov, late.
Magnolia Warbler: max 13 TR 18 Sep; last 2 OLP 10 Oct.
Bay-breasted Warbler: 16 HI 10 Sep; 18 Syr 8 Sep; max 19 OakC 6 Sep, exc nums; last Old Forge 5 Oct.
Blackburnian Warbler: max 6 OSP 8 Sep; last Syr 3 Oct.
Yellow Warbler: max 8 OLP 5 Sep; last OLP 30 Sep.
Chestnut-sided Warbler: max 10 OakC 5 Sep; last OLP 5 Oct.
Blackpoll Warbler: max 12 OLC 24 Sep; last 2 Rome 26 Oct.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: max 3 Osw by NFC 1 Oct; last SSSP 8 Oct.
Palm Warbler: arr North Bay 2 Sep; max 18 Volney 28 Sep & OLP 1 Oct; last Salisbury 27 Oct.
Pine Warbler: max 3 OSP 8 Sep & SSSP 1 Oct; last Phoenix & Eagle Bay 8 Oct.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 95 SP 2 Oct, good num; last Rome 7 Nov.
YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER (R5): OSP 13 Sep (SRo, ph).
Prairie Warbler: no reps.
Black-throated Green Warbler: max 6 HI 17 Sep & TR 24 Sep; last OLC 19 Oct, late.
Canada Warbler: singles sev locs 3-10 Sep; max 3 HA 1 Sep; last HI 10 Sep.
Wilson's Warbler: max 6 OLP 16 Sep; last HA 4 Oct.
warbler sp: 40 Rome 7 Sep (DJE); 75 OSP 8 Sep (DAn) amid large fallout; 75 Osw by NFC 1 Oct (JAm, mob).

Scarlet Tanager: max 5 OakC 5 Sep & HI 17 Sep.
Northern Cardinal: widespread resident.
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: max 9 TR 18 Sep; last Fulton 9 Oct.
Indigo Bunting: max 5 OLP 5 Sep; last Syr 3 Oct; Manheim 20 Oct (EFr), very late.

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REGION 8—HUDSON-MOHAWK

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Temperatures in the Greater Capital region of New York were close to the long-term averages in September and October 2022, but the period featured a wetter than normal September, and a drier than normal October. November 2022 was warmer and a bit wetter than average. The first freeze at Albany did not occur until 29 October, and the first measurable snow fell on 15 November.

	Albany			Glens Falls		
Temp	Mean	Normal	Deviation	Mean	Normal	Deviation
Sep	63.9°	63.5°	+0.4°	59.3°	59.7°	-0.4°
Oct	52.3°	51.4°	+0.9°	47.9°	48.0°	-0.1°
Nov	44.3°	40.5°	+3.8°	40.4°	37.2°	+3.2°

Precip	Total	Normal	Deviation	Total	Normal	Deviation
Sep	5.45"	3.73"	+1.72"	4.15"	3.72"	+0.85"
Oct	3.15"	3.85"	-0.70"	2.72"	3.66"	-0.96"
Nov	3.23"	2.99"	+0.24"	3.60"	3.01"	+0.59"

A **Black-legged Kittiwake** was photographed on the large pond at the Center Square of The Crossings of Colonie, Albany County, on 8 September. The initial observer did not identify it to species, however. It was not until five days later that Craig Driggs observed the bird and reported it on the local birding group.io. Many observers came to see this local rarity, and it quickly became apparent that the bird was not doing well. It succumbed the following day and was salvaged and preserved by Dr. Jeremy Kirchman and his staff at the New York State Museum. His notes said "examination showed that the bird had no broken bones or obvious head trauma, no visible internal or external parasites, and no tumors or organ pathologies other than exceptionally juicy lungs, consistent with drowning. The stomach was empty, and the breast muscles were sunken, indicating the bird was emaciated.... One other thing to note is that almost all eBird reports of coastal or Great Lakes kittiwakes in NY in the fall are juvs, but our bird lacked the black tail band, dark M on the upper wings, and dark neck collar of first year birds, and looked more like a non-breeding adult." See article in this issue, pp. 15-17.

Three reports of **American Golden-Plover** were received this fall. The first was observed at Schenectady County Airport on 7 September. A group of four were seen in a farm field near Athens, Greene County on 20 September. The final sighting was presumably a single lingering individual at Cohoes Flats in Albany County between 22-26 October. A **Hudsonian Godwit** was photographed at Cohoes Flats three times between 1-6 October. Interestingly, one was observed at the same location three years earlier on 3 October.

A pair of **Tundra Swans** appeared in Saratoga County on Saratoga Lake from 27-29 November. **Canvasback** and **Redhead** ducks were once again a rare commodity in Region 8, with only two reports of each species being recorded, with maxima of four and two, respectively. Seaducks were unusually common this autumn, and with some Regional high counts as well. **Surf Scoter** were reported from six counties, but in typically small groups of one to four individuals. **White-winged Scoter** was seen in higher numbers, with 45-60 observed from various vantage points along Saratoga Lake, Saratoga County in late October and the first half of November. As many as thirty **Black Scoter** were noted at Saratoga Lake in the second week of November. **Long-tailed Duck** were seen on the larger

reservoirs and lakes as well, with a count of twenty reported from the Great Sacandaga Lake on 29 November.

David Halm had the distinction of observing the only two **Northern Saw-whet Owls** reported this term. The first was vocalizing near his home in Ballston, Saratoga County on 11 October. The second was seen and photographed in the city of Schenectady on 18 October, when mobbing birds drew his attention to the owl.

Four **Bohemian Waxwings** were present at Hague Town Beach Park on the western side of Lake George, Warren County, on 22 November, photographed by Gary Chapin. A **White-eyed Vireo** was photographed at Vischer Ferry Nature and Historic Preserve on 23-24 October. Some early 'winter finch' sightings included **Pine Grosbeak** at Hague, Warren County, on the west side of Lake George. **Evening Grosbeak** continued to be widespread in the Region, with many reports from all save Schenectady County during the period. There was also a single report of **White-winged Crossbill** at Vischer Ferry Nature and Historic Preserve on 9 November.

228 species were reported during the period.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

APBP – Albany Pine Bush Pres, ALBA; **AR** – Alcove Res, ALBA; **BCM** – Black Creek Marsh, ALBA; **BCR** – Basic Creek Res, ALBA; **BMB** – Bog Meadow Brook Nature Trail, SARA; **CCGP** – Coxsackie Creek Grasslands Pres, GREE; **CF** – Cohoes Flats, ALBA; **CL** – Collins L, SCHE; **CRM** – Cline Rd Marsh, FULT; **FR** – Five Rivers EEC, ALBA; **FtEG** – Fort Edward Grasslands, WASH; **FV** – Franklinton Vlaie, SCHO; **HP** – Huyck Pres, ALBA; **OCA** – Ooms Conservation Area, COLU; **PRWMA** – Partridge Run WMA, ALBA; **SNHP** – Saratoga National Historical P, SARA; **TR** – Tomhannock Res, RENN; **VFNHP** – Vischer Ferry Nature & Historic Pres, SARA; **WMP** – Wilson M. Powell Wildlife Sanctuary, COLU.

Snow Goose: max 163 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 29 Nov.
Greater White-fronted Goose: Logans Pd MONT 12 Oct.
Brant: Ft Miller WASH 27 Oct; Corning Riverfront P ALBA 28 Oct, only reports.
Cackling Goose: 2 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 26 Sep; Ft Miller WASH 10 Nov.
Canada Goose: max 1500 Stanton Pd ALBA 22 Nov.
Mute Swan: max 7 Stony Creek Res SARA 21 Sep; 7 Nassau L RENS 30 Oct.
Tundra Swan: 2 Saratoga L SARA 27-30 Nov.
Wood Duck: max 76 VFNHP 1 Oct.
Blue-winged Teal: max 31 CF 7 Oct.
Northern Shoveler: max 10 Round L SARA 24 Nov.
Gadwall: max 43 Stanton Pd ALBA 27 Nov.
American Wigeon: max 240 Stanton Pd ALBA 22 Oct.
Mallard: max 350 Saratoga L SARA 27 Nov.
American Black Duck: max 61 VFNHP 15 Nov.
Northern Pintail: max 14 Wagers Pd SARA 9 Nov.
Green-winged Teal: max 75 Champlain Canal Lock 2 SARA 12 Oct; 75 Watervliet Res ALBA 30 Oct.
Canvasback: 4 Alcove Res ALBA 25 Oct; BCR 20 Nov, only reports.
Redhead: max 2 Cobleskill Res SCHO 13 Oct; Mohawk R Lock 12 MONT 11-19 Oct, only reports.
Ring-necked Duck: max 750 BCR 27 Nov.
Greater Scaup: max 75 Loughberry L SARA 16 Nov.
Lesser Scaup: max 200 Loughberry L SARA 17 Nov.
Surf Scoter: 4 AR 22-24 Oct; 3 Mohawk River Lock 12 MONT 11-23 Oct.
White-winged Scoter: max 60 Saratoga L SARA 11 Nov; 12 BCR 25 Oct; 5 Nassau L RENS 28 Oct.
Black Scoter: max 30 Saratoga L SARA 11 Nov; 11 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 7 Nov; 7 BCR 2 Nov; 5 Nassau L RENS 2 Nov.
Long-tailed Duck: max 20 Great Sacandaga L FULT 29 Nov; 5 Round L SARA 8 Nov; 2 BCR 2 Nov; 2 Nassau L RENS 24 Nov.
Bufflehead: max 100 Saratoga L SARA 22 Nov.
Common Goldeneye: max 500 Saratoga L SARA 30 Nov.
Hooded Merganser: max 250 BCR 22 Nov.
Common Merganser: max 386 Nassau L RENS 23 Nov.
Red-breasted Merganser: max 11 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 29 Nov.
Ruddy Duck: max 800 BCR 23 Oct.

Wild Turkey: max 110 Appleby Rd, Feura Bush ALBA 27 Nov.
Ruffed Grouse: max 4 Dyken Pd RENS 10 Sep; 4 Voorheesville ALBA 6 Oct.

Pied-billed Grebe: max 4 BMB 23 Oct; 4 Saratoga L SARA 25 Oct.
Horned Grebe: max 18 Saratoga L SARA 22 Nov; 17 Great Sacandaga L FULT 25 Nov.
Red-necked Grebe: max 4 Saratoga L SARA 10 Nov.

Rock Pigeon: max 400 E Hoosick RENS 30 Oct.
Mourning Dove: max 56 Livingston COLU 6 Oct.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 5 Sep; Albany Rural Cem ALBA 19 Sep; last Niskayuna SCHE 24 Sep.
Black-billed Cuckoo: last Glenmont ALBA 3 Sep, only report.

Common Nighthawk: max 29 Guilderland ALBA 3 Sep; last Selkirk ALBA 23 Sep.
Eastern Whip-poor-will: last Hague WARR 1 Sep, only report.

Chimney Swift: max 50 RPI campus, Troy RENS 3 Sep; last 5 RamsHorn-Livingston Sanc GREE 25 Sep.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: max 7 Grafton RENS 1 Sep; last New Baltimore GREE 18 Oct.

Virginia Rail: max 4 VFNHP 6 Sep; last VFNHP 1 Oct.
Sora: last BCM 25 Sep.
Common Gallinule: max 6 Clemons Marsh WASH 10 Sep; last Clemons Marsh WASH 13 Oct.
American Coot: max 9 BCR 27 Nov.

Sandhill Crane: max 4 Oppenheim FULT 20 Oct; Hillsdale COLU 3 Sep; Glenville SCHE 5-14 Sep.

American Golden-Plover: max 4 Athens GREE 20 Sep; Schenectady County Arpt SCHE 7 Sep; CF 22-26 Oct.

Semipalmated Plover: max 5 Scotia GREE 7 Sep.
Killdeer: max 61 Schenectady County Arpt SCHE 6 Sep; last Castelton RENS 16 Nov.

HUDSONIAN GODWIT (R8): CF 1-6 Oct, ph, *intro*.
Sanderling: BCM 8 Sep; Gull I, L George, WARR 26 Sep, 6 Oct.
Dunlin: CF 7-12 Oct
Baird's Sandpiper: Schenectady County Arpt SCHE 5 Sep.
Least Sandpiper: max 10 BCM 8 Sep.
White-rumped Sandpiper: 2 CF 10-11 Oct.
Pectoral Sandpiper: max 5 Great Vly WMA GREE 1 Oct; 3 Athens GREE 21 Sep; 2 CF 2 Oct.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 10 Schenectady County Arpt SCHE 5 Sep.
American Woodcock: max 2 FR 20 Oct.
Wilson's Snipe: max 21 Clemons Marsh WASH 10 Sep.
Spotted Sandpiper: max 7 Champlain Canal Lock 2 SARA 18 Sep.
Solitary Sandpiper: max 2 mult loc.
Lesser Yellowlegs: max 3 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 20 Sep; 3 CF 2 Oct.
Greater Yellowlegs: max 4 Peebles I SP SARA 24 Sep.

BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE (R8): The Crossings of Colonie ALBA 8-14 Sep, *intro*.
Bonaparte's Gull: max 5 Papscanee I NP RENS 15 Sep.
Ring-billed Gull: max 433 CF 11 Oct.
Herring Gull: max 150 Fultonville MONT 22 Nov.
Lesser Black-backed Gull: imm, Lock 7 State Canal P, Niskayuna SCHE 24 Nov.
Great Black-backed Gull: max 16 Crescent Power Plant ALBA 1 Nov.
Caspian Tern: max 4 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 1 Sep.

Red-throated Loon: Schodack RENS 16 Nov; TR 19 Nov; Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 30 Nov.
Common Loon: max 9 L George 1 Nov; 9 Saratoga L SARA 10 Nov.

Double-crested Cormorant: max 344 Albany ALBA 2 Oct.

Great Blue Heron: max 12 Clemons Marsh WASH 13 Oct.
Great Egret: max 9 Crescent P, Halfmoon SARA 13 Sep; last South Bay, Hudson COLU 11 Nov.
Snowy Egret: CF 1-20 Sep.
Green Heron: max 7 BCM 3 Sep; last Kingsbury WASH 27 Oct.
Black-crowned Night-Heron: max 3 Clemons Marsh WASH 11 Sep; CF 18

Sep-15 Oct; Schoharie Crossing BL MONT 29 Sep.

Black Vulture: max 80 New Scotland ALBA 27 Nov.
Turkey Vulture: max 50 Ravena ALBA 19 Oct.

Osprey: max 6 Thacher P Hawk Watch ALBA 17 Sep.

Golden Eagle: arr Hunter GREE 30 Sep, early; Providence SARA 11 Oct; Hague WARR 4 Nov; Pine Plains COLU 10 Nov; Cambridge WASH 19 Nov; Copake COLU 23 Nov; Stratford FULT 24 Nov.
Northern Harrier: max 5 FtEG 8 Oct.
Sharp-shinned Hawk: max 3 Thacher P ALBA 14 Sep.
Cooper's Hawk: max 7 Thacher P ALBA 15 Sep.
Northern Goshawk: North Creek WARR 11 Oct; Middleburgh SCHO 15 Oct; RamsHorn-Livingston Sanc GREE 29 Sep.
Bald Eagle: max 9 Thacher P ALBA 15 Sep.
Red-shouldered Hawk: max 3 mult loc.
Broad-winged Hawk: max 269 Thacher P ALBA 15 Sep.
Red-tailed Hawk: max 22 Thacher P ALBA 16 Sep.

Eastern Screech-Owl: max 2 Claverack COLU 11 Sep; 2 VFNHP 6 Oct.
Great Horned Owl: max 3 Ghent COLU 26 Nov.
Barred Owl: max 4 Hague WARR 10 Sep; 4 Ft Ann WASH 26 Sep.
Short-eared Owl: arr FtEG 26 Nov.
Northern Saw-whet Owl: Ballston SARA 11 Oct; Schenectady SCHE 18 Oct.

Belted Kingfisher: max 4 mult loc.

Red-bellied Woodpecker: max 9 VFNHP 6 Oct.
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: max 6 Ancram COLU 3 Sep; 6 Hague WARR 10 Sep.
Downy Woodpecker: max 14 Saratoga Spa SP SARA 26 Sep; 14 VFNHP 6 Oct.
Hairy Woodpecker: max 6 Anchor Diamond P SARA 26 Nov.
Northern Flicker: max 18 APBP 11 Sep.
Pileated Woodpecker: max 7 Niskayuna SCHE 21 Sep.

American Kestrel: max 7 Schodack RENS 30 Sep.
Merlin: max 4 Thacher P ALBA 15 Sep.
Peregrine Falcon: max 3 Thacher P ALBA 15 Sep.

Great Crested Flycatcher: max 3 Stuyvesant COLU 1 Sep; last VFNHP 12 Sep.
Eastern Kingbird: max 3 Coxsackie GREE 2 Sep; 3 Oppenheim FULT 8 Sep; last 2 BCM 11 Sep; FR 11 Sep.
Olive-sided Flycatcher: last Vale P & Cem SCHE 25 Sep.
Eastern Wood-Pewee: max 8 Olana COLU 3 Sep; last FR 11 Oct.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: last VFNHP 13 Oct.
Least Flycatcher: max 3 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 1 Sep; last VFNHP 27 Sep.
Eastern Phoebe: max 21 Overmountain Cons Area COLU 29 Sep.

Yellow-throated Vireo: last Kinderhook COLU 4 Oct.
Blue-headed Vireo: last Summit SCHO 23 Oct.
Philadelphia Vireo: max 2 mult loc; last Schodack I SP RENS 7 Oct.
Warbling Vireo: max 6 VFNHP 2 Sep; last Niskayuna SCHE 10 Oct.
Red-eyed Vireo: last Stockport COLU 17 Oct.

Blue Jay: max 505 New Baltimore GREE 28 Sep.

American Crow: max 10,000 Green I ALBA 26 Nov.
Fish Crow: max 300 CF 8 Oct.
Common Raven: max 18 Thacher P ALBA 15 Sep.

Black-capped Chickadee: max 47 Boice Fam P SARA 12 Nov.
Tufted Titmouse: max 28 Peebles I SP SARA 28 Sep.

Horned Lark: max 80 Schodack RENS 11 Nov.

Bank Swallow: last 5 CF 3 Sep.
Tree Swallow: last 10 CF 12 Oct.
Northern Rough-winged Swallow: last 24 Cohoes ALBA 5 Oct.
Barn Swallow: last APBP 11 Sep.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: max 26 Ancram COLU 30 Sep.
Golden-crowned Kinglet: max 30 Palenville GREE 22 Oct.

Bohemian Waxwing: 4 Hague Town Beach P WARR 22 Nov, only report.
Cedar Waxwing: max 110 Athens GREE 13 Sep.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: max 21 APBP 21 Sep.
White-breasted Nuthatch: max 10 Normanskill Farm ALBA 27 Sep.

Brown Creeper: max 6 Wilton Wildlife Pres SARA 28 Oct.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: last VFNHP 29 Sep.

Carolina Wren: max 7 Normanskill Farm ALBA 16 Sep.
House Wren: last Austerlitz COLU 26 Oct.
Winter Wren: max 5 VFNHP 7 Nov.
Marsh Wren: last VFNHP 15 Nov.

Gray Catbird: max 50 FR 10 Sep.

Brown Thrasher: last FR 14 Oct; Collins L SCHE 14 Oct.
Northern Mockingbird: max 9 The Crossings ALBA 14 Sep.

European Starling: max 2000 Hoosick RENS 10 Sep.

Eastern Bluebird: max 29 Hillsdale COLU 2 Oct.
Veery: last Ballston Spa SARA 26 Sep.
Swainson's Thrush: max 5 Dyken Pd Rd RENS 14 Sep; last Summit SCHO 23 Oct.
Hermit Thrush: max 6 Saratoga Springs SARA 21 Oct.
Wood Thrush: last Hunter GREE 20 Oct.
American Robin: max 200 BCR 16 Oct; 200 Colonie ALBA 25 Nov.

House Sparrow: max 100 Stanton Pd ALBA 19 Sep.

American Pipit: max 60 Ft Plain MONT 12 Oct; last 6 Appleby Rd, New Scotland ALBA 24 Nov.

Evening Grosbeak: max 35 Rensselaerville ALBA 29 Nov; 25 Summit SCHO 5 Nov; 14 Poestenkill RENS 23 Nov.
House Finch: max 112 Wynantskill RENS 29 Sep.
Purple Finch: max 18 Garnsey P SARA 13 Oct.
Red Crossbill: max 15 Austerlitz COLU 5 Nov.
White-winged Crossbill: 3 VFNHP 9 Nov.
Pine Siskin: max 7 Athens GREE 30 Oct.
American Goldfinch: max 100 Papscanee I SP RENS 24 Oct.

Lapland Longspur: 4 Elka P GREE 28 Oct, only report.
Snow Bunting: arr Cobleskill Res SCHO 30 Oct; max 80 Ft Plain MONT 20 Nov.

Grasshopper Sparrow: Normanskill Farm ALBA 23 Oct, only report.
Chipping Sparrow: max 34 Nassau RENS 10 Oct.
Clay-colored Sparrow: Putnam WASH 17 Sep; Normanskill Farm ALBA 29 Sep, only reports.
Field Sparrow: max 10 mult loc.
American Tree Sparrow: arr APBP 12 Oct; max 28 VFNHP 29 Nov.
Fox Sparrow: arr 2 North Creek WARR 10 Oct; max 13 VFNHP 3 Nov.
Dark-eyed Junco: max 51 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 30 Oct.
White-crowned Sparrow: arr FR 25 Sep; max 18 Stockport COLU 10 Oct.
White-throated Sparrow: max 200 VFNHP 5 Oct.
Vesper Sparrow: max 3 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 26 Oct; last Hoosick RENS 26 Oct.
Savannah Sparrow: max 11 Roeliff Jansen P COLU 10 Oct.
Song Sparrow: max 48 Normanskill Farm ALBA 1 Oct.
Lincoln's Sparrow: arr Stuyvesant COLU 15 Sep; max 5 Clemons Marsh WASH 16 Sep; last Meads Ln, Delmar ALBA 23 Oct.
Swamp Sparrow: max 40 Ancram COLU 25 Oct.
Eastern Towhee: max 17 E Greenbush RENS 4 Oct.

Bobolink: max 40 Ancram COLU 8 Sep; last 3 Ghent 17 Sep.
Eastern Meadowlark: max 13 CCGP 19 Oct.
Baltimore Oriole: max 3 VFNHP 7 Sep; last E Greenbush RENS 5 Oct.
Red-winged Blackbird: max 2500 Glen MONT 6 Nov.
Brown-headed Cowbird: max 400 St Johnsville MONT 21 Oct.
Rusty Blackbird: arr Johnstown FULT 23 Sep; max 68 Round L SARA 19 Oct.
Common Grackle: max 5000 Castleton RENS 28 Oct.

Ovenbird: max 4 Hague WARR 15 Sep; last APBP 4 Oct.
Northern Waterthrush: last Ballston SARA 12 Sep.
Blue-winged Warbler: last Schodack I SP 14 Sep.
Black-and-white Warbler: max 4 mult loc; last Hoosick RENS 10 Oct.
Tennessee Warbler: max 8 Glenville SCHE 27 Sep; last Palatine MONT 22 Nov, ph, very late.
Orange-crowned Warbler: VFNHP 20 Sep; APBP 23 Sep; Hague WARR 27 Sep; Ghent COLU 9 Oct; Normanskill Farm ALBA 12 Nov.
Nashville Warbler: max 6 VFNHP 20 Sep; last Summit SCHO 23 Oct.
Connecticut Warbler: Guilderland ALBA 20 Sep; APBP 23 Sep; juv VFNHP 26 Sep, ph.
Mourning Warbler: Mt Tom SF WASH 3 Sep, only report.
Common Yellowthroat: max 10 VFNHP 11 Sep.
Hooded Warbler: FR 11 Sep, only report.
American Redstart: max 4 Mt Tom SF WASH 11 Sep; last Ghent COLU 7 Oct.
Cape May Warbler: max 5 Hudson COLU 8 Sep; last New Baltimore GREE 22 Oct.
Northern Parula: max 9 Peebles I SP SARA 15 Sep; last Halfmoon SARA 18 Nov, late.
Magnolia Warbler: max 10 Peebles I SP SARA 15 Sep; last 2 Schodack I SP RENS 14 Oct.
Bay-breasted Warbler: max 5 mult loc; last E Greenbush RENS 25 Oct.
Blackburnian Warbler: max 5 Hague WARR 3 Sep; last Glen MONT 30 Sep.
Yellow Warbler: max 2 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 10 Sep; last Normanskill Farm ALBA 10 Oct.
Chestnut-sided Warbler: max 4 mult loc; last Stuyvesant COLU 7 Oct.
Blackpoll Warbler: max 12 Peebles I SP SARA 27 Sep; last Peebles I SP SARA 12 Oct.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: max 6 Mt Tom SF WASH 11 Sep; last Summit SCHO 20 Oct.
Palm Warbler: max 15 Roeliff Jansen P COLU 10 Oct; last CRM 4 Nov.
Pine Warbler: max 14 Wilton Wildlife Pres SARA 10 Sep; last Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 26 Oct.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 150 VFNHP 6 Oct.
Prairie Warbler: max 2 mult loc; last Livingston COLU 27 Sep.
Black-throated Green Warbler: max 15 APBP 25 Sep; last Peebles I SP SARA 12 Oct.
Canada Warbler: max 2 Hague WARR 3 Sep; last Fox Pres ALBA 29 Sep.
Wilson's Warbler: max 2 mult loc; last Queensbury WARR 8 Oct.

Scarlet Tanager: max 6 Glen MONT 19 Sep; last Niverville COLU 4 Oct.
Northern Cardinal: max 25 Rexford SARA 5 Sep.
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: max 16 Kinderhook COLU 9 Sep; last Niskayuna SCHE 27 Oct.
Indigo Bunting: max 13 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 16 Sep; last Halfmoon SARA 1 Nov.

REGION 9—HUDSON-DELAWARE

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September started out dry, but a three-day storm replenished much of the water in the Region and put down quite a few interesting birds. There was a high of 90° F on 4 September and a low of 37° on 24 September for an average of 64.7°, .08° below normal. There was 4.70" of precipitation, .37" below normal. October had no significant weather events. There was a high of 75° on three dates, the latest 26 October. There was a low of 26° on 30 October for an average of 52.4°, 0.2° above normal. There was a total of 3.17" of precipitation, .56" below normal. November saw warmer than usual conditions through mid-month with a cold front bringing the first significant snow on 15 November. Four inches fell in the upper elevations. There was a high of 77° on 5 November and a low of 18° on 21 November, an average temperature of 55.9°, 2.4° above normal. The total precipitation of 2.58" was .69" below normal.

The first uncommon goose of the season was a Greater White-fronted Goose found by Debbie van Zyl at Stony Kill Farm EEC on 24 September. The first Cackling Goose of the season was spotted by Linda Scrima in the Wallkill River National Wildlife Refuge on 30 October.

Sullivan County's annual Wood Duck count at the Bashakill SWMA tallied 2,460 Wood Duck between the two count periods.

On 24 September Julian Amsellem discovered a **Parasitic Jaeger** at The Landing, Dobbs Ferry. This is an extremely rare record for Region 9 and the first inland record for the county. As might be expected the sighting was brief but was well documented with photos.

We've come to find numbers of **Caspian Terns** along the Hudson River in the fall to be a regular occurrence. However, Renee Davis finding a family group of three at Morningside Park in Sullivan County on 5 October was most unexpected and a late record for the county. On 7 September the author spotted a tern flying into Morningside Park expecting it to be a Common Tern but when the bird landed near him, he was surprised to see a **Forster's Tern**, a rare record for the county.

The **Anhinga** in Rockland County continued from the summer period, being seen through 5 September.

On 13 October Ari Weiss observed a tremendous flight of Double-crested Cormorants moving south along the Hudson at Piermont Pier. This was just the first of several such events.

The **Neotropic Cormorant**, first found on the Newburgh Waterfront in the spring period continued into the fall; monitored daily by Bruce Nott, it was last seen on 9 October.

The **Great Blue Heron (Great White)** in Rockland County this summer continued throughout the fall period. It was last reported on 10 November. A **Glossy Ibis** was found at Six and a Half Station Road in Orange County on 5 September by Kathy Ashman.

On 17 September Dave Chernack happened upon a **Fork-tailed Flycatcher** at the Grieg Farm in Dutchess County. A couple of fortunate birders joined him and got to view this extreme rarity for the Region. It disappeared all too quickly and wasn't seen again.

On 9 November Mary Buskey photographed a shrike at the Shawangunk Grasslands NWR which turned out to be a **Loggerhead Shrike**. The bird would not be seen again until after the end of the period.

On 11 October Sean Camillieri came upon an unusually high number (62) of Tufted Titmice moving though Hillview Reservoir in Westchester County.

On 7 September Brendon Kelly found a **Northern Wheatear** at Hillview Reservoir in Yonkers, Westchester County. A rare bird for the Region it was the third record for Westchester. The reservoir is a restricted access site, so the public was unable to view the bird.

On 13 September the author was checking for migrants on Haven Road at the Bashakill when a pale sparrow flew across the road. He was pleased to confirm the bird was a **Clay-colored Sparrow**, rare for the county and the first in nine years. There would be several more reports in the Region this period. On 16 September Peter Schoenberger identified the first of season **Nelson's Sparrow** on Posquiello Creekside Road in Ulster County. Unfortunately, the bird was on private property. A second Nelson's was found at West Point Foundry Preserve by Charlie Roberto and Kyle Bardwell on 3 October, a rare find for Putnam County.

On 9 September Michelle Brigman discovered a **Yellow-headed Blackbird** at Croton Point Park. Fortunately, the bird remained just long enough the following morning for a couple of local birders to see it. On 28 November Susan Logan Ward photographed a cooperative meadowlark which turned out to be a **Western Meadowlark**. This was the first record for Ulster County and only the second for Region 9.

On 18 November, Michael Mandracchia, who was visiting the area, spotted a **Yellow-throated Warbler** feeding on insects outside his hotel in Middletown. He posted an eBird report and the following morning many birders were able to view this extreme rarity for Orange County, even more so given the time of year. Surprisingly, Wendy Tocci found yet another Yellow-throated Warbler in the company of an Orange-crowned Warbler in Kingston on 27 November.

Ari Weiss was surprised to look at his feeders on 11 November and see an extremely late Rose-breasted Grosbeak feeding on the suet. Richard Leonard was participating in a field trip at Rockefeller State Park on 26 September when he spotted an interesting blue bird. He got several photos proving the bird to be a Blue Grosbeak which was ultimately seen by many over the next few days.

CONTRIBUTORS

Stephanie A., Julian Amsellem (JAm), Theodore Anderson, Scott Angus, Kathleen Ashman, John Askildsen (JAs), Scott Baldinger, Kyle Bardwell, Gail Benson, Michael Bochnik (MBo), Manjul Bhushan (MBh), Tom Burke, Mary Buskey (MBus), Barbara Butler, Sean Camillieri, Chris Chappell (CCh), Dave Chernack, Jean Cimorelli (JCim), Judy Cinquina (JCin), Mary Collier, Russ Comeau, Chris Cording (CCo), Renee Davis (RDa), Patrick Dechon, Ronnie DiLorenzo (RDi), John Drummond, Max Epstein, Andrew Farnsworth, Mitchell Goldfarb, Scott Graber, Frank Guida, John Haas, Rubina Heptulla, Elizabeth Jamison, Susan Joseph, Brendon Kelly, Chris Kennelly, Rick Kline, Kyle Knapp, Chaiby Leiman, Deborah Kral, Aimee LaBarr, Karalyn Lamb, Stu Landesberg, Chaiby Leiman, Richard Leonard (RLe), Renee Lucier (RLu), Anthony Macchiarola, Michael Mandracchia, Patrick Markee, Nick Martin, Kenneth McDermott (KMcD), Kevin McGrath (KMcG), Barbara Michelin, Karen Miller (KMi), R Miller, Bruce Nott, Gerhard Patsch, Nickolas Paulson, Carena Pooth, Loren Quinby, Steve Rappaport, Charlie Roberto, Susan Rogers, Alexander Rothaus, Joe Rothstein, Larry Scacchetti (LSca); Nicholas Schleissmann, Peter Schoenberger, Yoely Schwartz, Zach Schwartz-Weinstein, Linda Scrima (LScr), Jarvis Shirky, Marion Sole, Barbara Strobino, Michelle Sutton, Anne Swaim, Barbara Thomascall, Wendy Tocci, Larry Trachtenberg, Andrew Vallely, Karen VanDyk, Richard VanTieghem, Debbie van Zyl, Harry Wales, Susan Logan Ward, Dennis Wareham, Tom Warren, Ari Weiss (AWei), Carol Weiss, Alan Wells (AWel), Ken Witkowski, Matthew Zeitler.

ABBREVIATIONS

AR – Ashokan Res, ULST; **BP** – Brown's Pd, ORAN; **BSWMA** – Bashakill State WMA, SULL; **CPP** – Croton Pt P, WEST; **DP** – Dockside P, PUTN; **DRT** – Dutchess Rail Trail, DUTC; **EGR** – Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary, WEST; **GF** – Glynwood Farm, PUTN; **GV** – Great Vly WMA, ULST; **HR** – Hillview Res, WEST; **HMR** – Hurley Mt Rd, ULST; **KL** – Kiamesha L, SULL; **LR** – Larchmont Res, WEST; **MC** – Marshlands Conservancy, WEST; **MP** – Morningside P, SULL; **NR** – Neversink Res, SULL; **NW** – Newburgh Waterfront, ORAN; **OCBDR** – Orange County Black Dirt Region, ORAN; **PITN** – Pine Island Turf Nursery, ORAN; **PP** – Piermont Pier, ROCK; **RLSP** – Rockland L SP, ROCK; **RR** – Rondout Res, SULL; **RSP** – Rockefeller SP, WEST; **RTP** – Rye Town P, WEST; **SFSP** – Sterling Forest SP, ORAN; **SGNWR** – Shawangunk Grasslands NWR, ULST; **SHSR** – Six and a Half Station Rd, ORAN; **SL** – Sylvan L, DUTC; **SKF** – Stony Kill Farm EEC, DUTC; **WL** – Wickham L, ORAN; **WPFP** – West Point Foundry Pres, PUTN; **WRNWR** – Wallkill River NWR, ORAN; **ws reps** – widespread reports.

CHESTNUT RIDGE HAWKWATCH TOTALS

Species	Arrival	Max	Max Date	Total
Black Vulture	10/06	10	10/22	59
Turkey Vulture	9/28	383	10/28	5051
Osprey	8/25	26	9/18	269
Golden Eagle	10/30	2	11/3, 11/4, 11/5	14
No. Harrier	8/25	15	9/17	149
Sharp-shinned Hawk	8/25	277	10/6	3917
Cooper's Hawk	8/28	41	10/28	747
No. Goshawk	0	0	0	0
Bald Eagle	8/25	18	9/24	260
Red-shouldered Hawk	9/8	224	10/28	1113
Broad-winged Hawk	8/25	1569	9/16	6883
Swainson's Hawk	0	0	0	0
Red-tailed Hawk	9/8	14	11/10	131
Rough-legged Hawk	0	0	0	0
Am. Kestrel	8/28	53	9/14	464
Merlin	9/1	12	10/20	140
Peregrine Falcon	9/10	5	10/13	36
Unidentified				227
Total inc unidentified				**19,460**

HOOK MOUNTAIN HAWKWATCH TOTALS

Species	Arrival	Max	Max Date	Total
Black Vulture	8/31	14	10/19	126
Turkey Vulture	9/2	370	10/19	1263
Osprey	8/31	28	9/9	177
Golden Eagle	10/23	2	11/12, 11/14	6
No. Harrier	9/9	11	10/19	78
Sharp-shinned Hawk	9/1	246	9/16	1212
Cooper's Hawk	8/27	47	10/28	242
No. Goshawk		2	10/28	8
Bald Eagle	8/14	11	10/20, 10/27	195
Red-shouldered Hawk	9/9	402	10/28	978
Broad-winged Hawk	9/1	3756	9/16	5268
Swainson's Hawk	0	0	0	0
Red-tailed Hawk	8/31	29	10/28	204
Rough-legged Hawk	0	0	0	0
Am. Kestrel	8/24	35	9/9	171
Merlin	9/2	8	9/9	55
Peregrine Falcon	8/31	8	10/15	34
Unidentified				42
Total inc unidentified				**10,059**

MOUNT PETER HAWKWATCH TOTALS

Species	Arrival	Max	Max Date	Total
Black Vulture	9/20	5	9/26	26
Turkey Vulture	9/5	88	10/27	393
Osprey	9/4	15	9/18	60
Golden Eagle	11/08	1	11/08, 11/13	2
No. Harrier	9/16	3	10/18	16
Sharp-shinned Hawk	9/5	59	10/18	647
Cooper's Hawk	9/8	7	9/28	76
No. Goshawk	0	0	0	0
Bald Eagle	9/8	9	9/26	103
Red-shouldered Hawk	9/16	9	9/29	70
Broad-winged Hawk	9/3	668	9/26	3306
Swainson's Hawk	0	0	0	0
Red-tailed Hawk	9/1	19	11/13, 11/14	183
Rough-legged Hawk	0	0	0	0
Am. Kestrel	9/8	14	9/14	64
Merlin	9/16	2	9/30, 10/20	11
Peregrine Falcon	9/8	1	9/8	8
Unidentified				7
Total inc unidentified				**4972**

Snow Goose: 50 Esopus ULST 15 Sep (DW); CPP 17 Sep (CR, mob); 12 BSWMA 21 Oct (MBo).
Greater White-fronted Goose: SKF 24 Sep (DvZ); Bowman Ave Pd WEST 20-30 Nov (GB, mob); WL 29-30 Nov (RDi, KVD), *intro*.
Brant: 250 CPP 10 Oct (JW, PM).
Cackling Goose: WRNWR 30 Oct (LS); max 3 Stormville DUTC 18-20 Nov (AM, mob); Bear Mt SP 19-22 Nov (NF, mob); Gibson Hill Rd ORAN 29 Nov (JS).
Tundra Swan: 4 HR 1 Nov (SC).
Wood Duck: 1712 BSWMA 28 Sep, 748 5 Oct (RDa, MC), *intro*.
Blue-winged Teal: max 8 WRNWR 1-5 Sep (LScr, mob); 3 MP 13 Sep (JH).
Northern Shoveler: 20 Congers Memorial P ROCK 2 Oct (CCo); max 3 WRNWR 3-20 Oct (RV, mob); max 5 WL 16-23 Oct (JCim).
Gadwall: max 48 Haverstraw CP ROCK 8 Oct-2 Nov (AWel); 7 Orange L ORAN 9 Oct (BN); max 10 WRNWR 20 Oct –1 Nov (AV, mob); max 9 WL 16-28 Oct (JCim, mob).
American Wigeon: 6 BP 20 Oct (BN); max 4 WL 16-30 Oct (JCim, mob).
Northern Pintail: max 20 WRNWR 30 Sep-12 Nov (KW, mob); max 10 Fly Pd DUTC 15 Oct-12 Nov (DK, mob); 15 DP 28 Oct (SC), ws reps.
Green-winged Teal: max 33 WRNWR 1-10 Sep (KW, mob).
Canvasback: Netherland Rd DUTC 20 Oct (SA); max 8 PP 21-30 Nov (AWei, mob).
Ring-necked Duck: max 190 BP 1-12 Nov (BN), ws reps.
Greater Scaup: max 8 NW 25 Oct (BN, JCim); max 3 EGR 28 Oct-12 Nov (GB, mob).
Lesser Scaup: max 4 SL 7-11 Nov (CP); 4 WL 6 Nov (JS).
Surf Scoter: Dennings Pt DUTC 9 Oct (NP); MC 15 Oct (RH); Washington L ORAN 21 Oct (BN, JCim); 2 CPP 23 Oct (JW); 2 NW 25 Oct (BN); 2 RR 26 Oct-2 Nov (RDi, mob).
White-winged Scoter: 2 DP 2 Oct (CR, SK); MC 8-13 Oct (TW, mob); KL 25 Oct (JH, mob); 4 SL 25 Oct (AM, mob); NW 25 Oct (BN); 2 Washington L 2 Nov (BN, mob).
Black Scoter: 6 Dennings Pt 9 Oct (NP); 2 NW 25 Oct (BN); MC 29 Oct (LM); 11 KL 2 Nov (JH, mob); 2 NR 2 Nov (JH, mob); 10 Washington L (BN, mob); 7 WL 2 Nov (MZ).
Long-tailed Duck: NR 19 Oct (JH, RDi); 2 Long Dock P DUTC 25 Oct (BN); 2 NR 4 Nov (JH, mob).
Bufflehead: AR 10 Oct (DC, OB); NR 21 Oct (JH, mob).
Common Goldeneye: max 5 Lake Superior SULL 28-29 Oct (SG, mob).
Hooded Merganser: max 47 Lake Lincolndale WEST 2-9 Nov (NS); 38 Lake Carmel PUTN 10 Nov (AM).
Common Merganser: max 104 Swan L SULL 13 Oct-30 Nov (SG, mob).
Red-breasted Merganser: Rhinecliff Landing P DUTC 26 Oct (KB); 3 Sand Dock Rd Trail DUTC 27 Oct (CCh); 6 NW 27 Oct (BN); 2 DP 2 Nov (CR); max 4 EGR 28 Oct-5 Nov (LM, mob).
Ruddy Duck: 19 SL 11 Oct (AM, mob); max 40 Orange L 23-27 Nov (BN, mob); max 190 BP 28 Oct-30 Nov (BN, mob), ws reps.

Ruffed Grouse: 3 Kenneth Wilson Campground ULST 18 Sep (LQ); Mohonk Pres ULST 27 Oct (AL); 2 Blue Hill Rd SULL 12 Nov (JH).

Pied-billed Grebe: max 6 Muscoot Res WEST 12 Oct-6 Nov (GB, mob); 3 DRT 29 Oct (CCh); max 3 WL 27 Oct-4 Nov (MZ), ws reps.
Horned Grebe: max 15 AR 9 Oct (PS, mob); WL 27 Oct-3 Nov (MZ, mob); 2 EGR 5 Nov (SR); 6 Orange L 8 Nov (BN); 15 WL 12 Nov (KK).
Red-necked Grebe: 2 SL 15 Oct (DvZ, mob); EGR 28 Oct-2 Nov (LM, GB).
Eared Grebe: Glen I P WEST 23 Nov (KMcG).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: Iona I ROCK 15 Oct (JC); WRNWR 20 Oct (AV).
Black-billed Cuckoo: Ward Pound Ridge Res WEST 18 Oct (JD); WRNWR 23,27 Oct (TS, JCin).

Common Nighthawk: 137 Port Jervis ORAN 8 Sep (SA); max 7 OCBDR 7-12 Oct (JCim, mob), late.

Chimney Swift: MC 17 Oct (GB, TB).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: Woodstock ULST 1-10 Oct (RLu); CPP 7 Oct (BS); Rye WEST 7 Oct (AF); Hartsdale WEST 2-10 Oct (SM).

Clapper Rail: max 2 MC 1-22 Sep (GB, mob)
Virginia Rail: Manitou Pt Pres PUTN (JY, AV).
Sora: Congers L P ROCK 5 Sep (AWei); max 2 PP 1-5 Sep (LSca).
Common Gallinule: max 19 SHSR 1 Sep-8 Oct (JCim, mob); max 10 WRNWR 1 Sep-8 Oct (KM, mob).
American Coot: max 13 WRNWR 26 Sep-6 Nov (LS, mob); max 28 Muscoot Res WEST 1 Oct-6 Nov (SR, mob); max 18 BSWMA 17 Oct-9 Nov (JH, mob); max 12 SL 4-12 Oct (AM, mob), ws.reps.

Sandhill Crane: max 6 WRNWR 1 Sep-28 Nov (LScr, mob); 3 Bear Mt Hawk Watch ORAN 16 Sep (GP); 3 MC 23 Sep (GB, TB); 3 Chestnut Ridge Hawk Watch WEST 29 Oct (RA).

American Oystercatcher: 2 MC 1-5 Sep (TW, mob) 2 RTP 5 Sep (SR, mob); EGR 11 Sep (GBen, TB).

Black-bellied Plover: 30 OCBDR 7 Sep (RDi); 10 MP 29 Sep (JH); EGR 2-4 Oct (GB, TB).
American Golden-Plover: OCBDR 1-7 Sep (MZ, mob); MP 4-6 Sep (JH, mob); Briarcliff Ln DUTC 6-7 Sep (DK, mob); HMR 8 Sep (PS): MP 24 Sep-1 Oct (JH, mob); 34 OCBDR 26 Sep (LS).
Semipalmated Plover: 6 2 Sep WRNWR (DC); max 6 PP 2-19 Sep (AWei, mob); max 6 2-7 Sep MC (TW, mob).

Upland Sandpiper: HR 13 Sep (SC); OCBDR 22 Sep (RDi).
Ruddy Turnstone: 4 PP 6 Sep (AWei).
Stilt Sandpiper: WRNWR 4-5 Sep (KK, mob).
Sanderling: MP 6 Sep (JH, mob); PP 8-12 Sep (AWei, mob).
Dunlin: Five Islands P WEST 19 Oct (RW); MP 24 Oct (JH, mob).
Purple Sandpiper: max 6 10-16 Nov (GB, TB); max 2 RTP 25-26 Nov (SR, MG).
Baird's Sandpiper: 2 Harbor Square P WEST 1 Sep (TA, mob); Mashomack Pres DUTC 6 Sep (JAs); PITN 9 Sep (JCin).
White-rumped Sandpiper: 3 HMR 8-13 Sep (PS, mob); Kingston Pt ULST 25 Sep (DS); max 3 MP 3-7 Oct (JH, mob); 6 OCBDR 6 Oct (MZ, mob).
Buff-breasted Sandpiper: max 2 OCBDR 7-20 Sep (JCim, mob).
Pectoral Sandpiper: max 2 WRNWR 1-8 Sep (DC, mob); max 6 MP 1 Sep-10 Oct (JH, mob); 10 HMR 8 Sep (PS); 2 GV 8 Sep (RM); ws reps.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 11 CRS 3-7 Sep (AS, mob); 15 Cornwall Bay ORAN 6 Sep (BN); max 9 PP 4-19 Sep (AWei, mob); ws reps.
Short-billed Dowitcher: PP 1 Sep (AWei); GF 2 Sep (SC); PP 5 Sep (LSca).
Long-billed Dowitcher: 2 Lake Tappan ROCK 1 Nov (AWei).
American Woodcock: Harriman SP ROCK 11 Nov (AWel).
Wilson's Snipe: max 4 MP 1 Sep-25 Oct (JH, mob); 3 WRNWR 3-4 Sep (LScr); 2 GV 4 Sep (PS); max 3 Barrett Pd PUTN 2 Sep-5 Nov (SC, mob).

PARASITIC JAEGER (R9): The Landing Dobbs Ferry WEST 24 Sep (JAm), *intro*.

Bonaparte's Gull: 2 Cornwall Bay 17 Sep (BN); max 6 5 Oct-28 Nov (GB, mob); 300 NW 7 Nov (BN); 50 PP 15 Nov (CW).
Laughing Gull: max 15 PP 1 Sep-30 Oct (AWei, mob); CPP 6-10 Oct (HW); Harbor Square P 10 Oct (LT); Cornwall Bay ORAN 13 Sep (BN); NW 26 Oct (BN); max 400 EGR 1 Sep-30 Nov (GB, mob).
Iceland Gull: NW 27-30 Nov (BN, RDi).
Lesser Black-backed Gull: NW 24 Sep-21 Nov (BN); PP 21 Nov (CW).
Caspian Tern: max 9 Cornwall Bay 1-13 Sep (BN); max 3 PP 1-5 Sep (AWei, mob); max 2 EGR 5 Sep (SR, mob); PP 3 Oct (AWei); 3 MP 5 Oct (RDa, mob).
Black Tern: 2 Cornwall Bay 6 Sep (BN).
Common Tern: max 6 EGR 1-7 Sep (SC, mob).
Forster's Tern: MP 7 Sep (JH, mob); 3 RTP 22 Sep (GB, TB); Harbor Square P 27 Sep (LT), *intro*.

Red-throated Loon: max 2 CPP 29 Oct-14 Nov (AS, mob); max 54 EGR 23 Oct-3 Nov (GB, mob); PP 16-26 Nov (AWei, mob).
Common Loon: max 12 AR 10 Oct-5 Nov (PS, mob); CPP 7-23 Oct (JW, mob); max 2 DP 23-29 Oct (SR, mob); max 3 27 Oct-5 Nov (KM, mob).

ANHINGA: Lake Tappan ROCK 3-5 Sep (RC, mob).

Great Cormorant: max 2 EGR 26 Sep-3 Nov (GB, TB); max 3 New Croton Res WEST 31 Oct-24 Nov (KL, mob); 4 Steamboat Riverfront P WEST 23 Nov (SR, CR).
Double-crested Cormorant: 1200 PP 13 Oct (AWei), *intro*.

NEOTROPIC CORMORANT: Global Oil Terminal Newburgh ORAN 1 Sep-9 Oct (BN, mob), *intro*.

"Great White" Heron: PP 1 Sep-10 Nov (AWei, mob), *intro*.
Great Egret: max 70 WRNWR 1-30 Sep (LScr, mob); WRNWR 20 Oct-10 Nov (AV, mob); EGR max 2 3,5 Nov (GB, TB); LR 11 Nov (LM); Suzanne L ROCK 14-16 Nov (YS, CL).
Snowy Egret: max 4 EGR 1-8 Sep (GB, mob); max 3 CRR 3-7 (CK, mob), WRNWR 3-5 Sep (DC, mob).
Little Blue Heron: WRNWR 1-3 Sep (LScr, mob); Hillside L DUTC 11-12 Sep (MBh); Haverstraw Bay CP 13 Sep-6 Oct (AWel, CW); Hillside L 23 Sep (KF, CR, mob).
Cattle Egret: CPP 9 Nov (KL); GF 10 Nov (CR, mob).
Green Heron: Manor P WEST 4 Nov (FG), late.
Black-crowned Night-Heron: CRR 3-4 Sep (AS, LO); max 4 Harbor Square P 4-7 Sep (JW, mob); EGR 4 Sep (GB, TB); 4 MC 5 Sep (SC, SR).
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: Five Islands P WEST 4 Sep (RW).

Glossy Ibis: SHSR 5, 9 Sep (KA, mob).

All Raptors – see also hawkwatch charts.
Osprey: Kingston Pt 2 Nov (DS); Posquiello Creekside Rd ULST 4 Nov (PS); SKF 4 Nov (AL); West Point Foundry Pres 2-3 Nov (AV); RLSP 4 Nov (CW), ws late reports.
Golden Eagle: West Point Foundry Pres 27 Oct (AV); GF 1 Nov (CR); DP 8 Nov (CR); Sullivan Co Community College 12 Nov (JH).
Northern Harrier: max 5 SGMWR 1 Sep-30 Nov (SLW, mob); max 3 WRMWR 1 Sep-30 Nov (LS, mob).
Broad-winged Hawk: 1151 Bear Mt Hawk Watch (season total).

Eastern Screech-owl: BSWMA 15, 29 Nov (MVD), Iona I ROCK 8 Sep- 31 Oct (AWei).
Great Horned Owl: max 2 MC 1 Sep-30 Nov (GB, mob); max 2 CPP 2 Sep-29 Nov (CR, mob); max 2 BSWMA 5 Sep-29 Nov (PD, mob).
Barred Owl: BSWMA 2 Sep-25 Oct (SB, mob).
Long-eared Owl: 2 Montgomery ORAN 20-30 Nov (JH).
Short-eared Owl: max 3 SGNWR 27-30 Nov (KMcD).
Northern Saw-whet Owl: 71 Owl Banding Site SULL 1 Sep-30 Nov (KMi, SB, mob).

Red-headed Woodpecker: DP 7 Oct (CR); Valhalla P WEST 7 Nov (RK).

American Kestrel: max 13 OCBDR 1 Sep-30 Nov (LS, mob).
Merlin: ws reps.
Peregrine Falcon: 3 Breakneck Ridge Loop PUTN 16 Oct (BR), ws reps.

Monk Parakeet: 10 Aiello P WEST 10 Nov (AR).

Eastern Kingbird: SGNWR 17 Sep (KMcD).
FORK-TAILED FLYCATCHER: Greig Farm DUTC 17 Sep (DC, mob), *intro.*
Olive-sided Flycatcher: Gouveia P WEST 30 Sep (SL).
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: PP 5 Sept (CW); BSWMA 29-30 Sep (MV, SB).
Acadian Flycatcher: WRNWR 25 Sep (JCim), late.
Least Flycatcher: Appalachian Tr DUTC 30 Sep (CCh).

White-eyed Vireo: Kakiat CP ROCK 20 Sep (LSca, AWei); George's I P WEST 20 Sep (SL); West Point ORAN 6 Oct (BT).
Philadelphia Vireo: 3 BSWMA 10-20 Sep (SA, mob); CFSP 9,17 Sep (SR, mob); max 2 WPFP 15-16 Sep (CR, JY); Kenridge Farm ORAN 17-18 Sep (BN); ws reps.

LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE: SGNWR 9 Nov (MBu), *intro.*
Northern Shrike: Willie Hill Rd SULL 29 Nov (RDa).

Tufted Titmice: 62 HR 11 Oct (SC), *intro.*

Horned Lark: 150 OCBDR 11 Nov (KMi); max 10 CPP 8-26 Nov (JW, mob), ws reps.

Tree Swallow: 200 OCBDR 13 Oct (SA); CPP 6 Nov (PM).

Gray-cheeked Thrush: BSWMA 11-30 Sep (JH, mob); MC 15 Sep (GB, TB); Lagrangeville DUTC 28 Sep (AM); SFSP 29 Sep (RDi), ws reps.
Swainson's Thrush: New Paltz ULST 23 Oct (MS).

NORTHERN WHEATEAR: HR 7 Sep (BK, mob), *intro.*

American Pipit: max 35 PITN 22 Sep (RDi, mob); max 200 Posquiello Creekside Rd 17 Sep-5 Nov (PS); max 60 Long Rd SULL 3-5 Nov (JH), ws reps.

Evening Grosbeak: Woodstock ULST 23 Sep (JG); Sloan Gorge Pres ULST 23 Oct (PS); 3 GF PUTN 23 Oct (SC, SR); 6 Kent PUTN 28 Oct (LJ); 8 Youngsville SULL 5 Nov (RDa); 10 Woodard Rd SULL 14 Nov (JH), ws reps.
Purple Finch: max 13 BSWMA 1 Oct-30 Nov (SB, mob); max 19 GF 2 Oct-30 Nov (SC, mob).
Red Crossbill: 8 AR 8 Nov (RM); Vanderbilt Mansion DUTC 15 Nov (KB).
White-winged Crossbill: 2 LaGrangeville DUTC 11 Nov (AM).
Pine Siskin: SKF 27 Sep (CCh); Appalachian Tr DUTC 30 Sep (CCh).

Lapland Longspur: Posquiello Creekside Rd 25 Nov (PS).
Snow Bunting: WRNWR 22 Oct (KK); max 2 SGNWR 31 Oct-3 Nov (SLW); 8 Hunter Rd SULL 4 Nov (JH); max 4 CPP 4-5 Nov (SR, mob).

Grasshopper Sparrow: Posquiello Creek Rd 16-18 Sep (PS); Greig Farm DUTC 20-24 Sep (MS, mob); SKF 24 Sep (DvZ); CPP 9-13 Oct (SR, mob); Masterson P ORAN 12 Oct (BT); SGNWR 12 Oct (SW).
Clay-colored Sparrow: BSWMA 13 Sep (JH, mob); RSP 9 Oct (JAm); HR 11 Oct (SC); CPP 6 Nov (JAm, mob), *intro*.
Vesper Sparrow: OCBDR 11 Sep (KK); Greig Farm 17-29 Sep (DK, mob); GF 2 Oct (SC, JB); BSWMA 3 Oct (JH, mob); ws reps.
Nelson's Sparrow: Posquiello Creekside Rd 16-18 Sep (PS); WPFP: 3 Oct (CR, KB, mob); CPP 23 Oct (LZ), *intro*.
Lincoln's Sparrow: max 16 Posquiello Creekside Rd 9 Sep (PS), Posqueillo Creekside Rd 23 Nov (PS), ws reps.

Yellow-breasted Chat: Tarrytown Lakes P WEST 23 Sep (PC).

Yellow-headed Blackbird: CPP 9- 10 Sep (MBr, mob), *intro*.
WESTERN MEADOWLARK: 28 Nov (SLW), *intro.*
Bobolink: 6 Grieg Farm 30 Sep (SR).
Rusty Blackbird: max 3 MP 26 Sep-1 Oct (JH); max 19 BSWMA 16 Oct-9 Nov (JH, mob); max 3 Kathryn Gorman Ponds P ROCK 3-9 Nov (CL, mob), ws reps.

Golden-winged Warbler: Crom Pd WEST 16 Sep (SR).
Blue-winged Warbler: MC 19 Sep (GB, TB).
Tennessee Warbler: Dennings Pt 5 Nov (DS, JD); RLSP 1 Nov (CW, AWei); CPP 6 Nov (KL).
Orange-crowned Warbler: Madam Brett P DUTC 20 Sep (AV); Seed Song Farm ULST 1 Oct (PS); RSP 10-11 Oct (MG, mob); Masterson P 10-12 Oct (BN, mob); Hurleyville Rail Trail SULL 14 Oct (ZSW, mob); MC 19 Oct (GB, TB); CPP 20-21 Oct (KL, LT); MC 29 Oct (RH); Convent Rd ROCK 25 Nov (ME, AWei); Kingston ULST 27 Nov (WT, mob).
Nashville Warbler: max 3 Masterson P 6-12 Oct (BN, mob); CPP 6 Nov (DC), ws reps.
Connecticut Warbler: Kakiat CP 19 Sep (AWei, mob); WRNWR 19 Sep (YH); Brinton Brook Sanctuary WEST 24 Sep (SC, SR); Greig Farm 26 Sep (JAs).
Mourning Warbler: Greig Farm 18 Sep (JA); WRNWR 25 Sep (KK).
Hooded Warbler: Kendridge Farm 4-18 Sep (MI, mob); max 3 Minnewaska SP ULST 14 Sep (NM, mob); Sand Dock Rd Trail 24 Sep (CCh).
Magnolia Warbler: Bristol Beach SP ULST 25 Nov (CF).
Blackpoll Warbler: Hastings on Hudson WEST 1 Nov (JAm).
Palm Warbler: BSWMA 1, 7 Nov (JH); max 4 SKF 1-5 Nov (DK, mob); max 2 CPP 1-10 Nov (AS, mob), ws late reps.
Yellow-throated Warbler: Crystal Run Rd ORAN 18-19 Nov (MM, mob); Kingston 27 Nov (WT, mob), *intro*.
Black-throated Green Warbler: MC 5 Nov (RH).
Wilson's Warbler: Dennings Pt 9 Oct (DS).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: Suffern ROCK 11 Nov (AWei), *intro.*
Blue Grosbeak: RSP 26-28 Sep (RL, mob); Untermeyer Gardens Conservancy WEST 30 Sep (JR), *intro*.
Indigo Bunting: 2 Yonkers WEST 12 Nov (JR).
Dickcissel: GF 2 Sep (SC); Grieg Farm 18-21 Sep (BM, mob); Community Garden PUTN 6 Oct (SC); max 3 CPP 13-14 Oct (KL, mob); HR 13 Oct (SC).

REPORTING YOUR OBSERVATIONS

Observers are strongly encouraged to report their findings directly to the Regional Editors, to help identify significant trends. Summary reports of observations; impressions of notable patterns in the weather, timing of migration, unusual scarcity or abundance of particular species, etc.; and notable individual records are highly valued. For maximum usefulness, send in reports no later than the 15th day of the month following the end of each season:

15 March, 15 June, 15 September, and 15 December.

STANDARD ABBREVIATIONS

Regional rarities appear in BOLD; county names are shortened to their first four letters and appear in UPPER CASE letters; months are shortened to their first three letters. In species accounts: number of individuals omitted implies that one individual was reported; ! – details seen by Regional Editor; ad – adult; alt – alternate plumage; arr – arrival or first of season; BBS – Breeding Bird Survey; BOTS – bird of the season; CBC – Christmas Bird Count; Co – County; I – Island; imm – immature; intro – see introduction to report; juv – juvenile; L – Lake; max – maximum; mob – multiple observers; Mt – Mountain; NYSDEC – New York State Department of Environmental Conservation; NWR – National Wildlife Refuge; NYSARC – report to New York State Avian Records Committee; P – park; Pd – Pond; ph – photographed; Pres – Preserve; Pt – Point; Res – Reservoir; Ri – River; SP – State Park; spm – specimen; subad – subadult; T – Town of; thru – throughout period; Twn – township; WMA – Wildlife Management Area; y – young.

BREEDING BIRD ATLAS CODES

These codes are listed in ascending order to highest breeding codes.

POSSIBLE: H – in appropriate habitat; S – singing bird.

PROBABLE: S7 – singing male present 7+ days; M – multiple (7+) singing males; P – pair in suitable habitat; T – territorial defense; C – courtship, display, or copulation; N – visiting probable nest site; A – agitated behavior; B – woodpecker/wren nest building.

CONFIRMED: PE – physiological evidence; CN – carrying nesting material; NB – nest building; DD – distraction display; UN – used nest; ON – occupied nest; FL – recently fledged and precocial young; CF – carrying food; FY – feeding young; FS – carrying fecal sac; NE nest with eggs; NY – nest with young.

REPORTING REGIONS

Regional boundaries coincide with county lines, except at:

Region 1-Region 2 in Orleans, Genesee and Wyoming Counties:

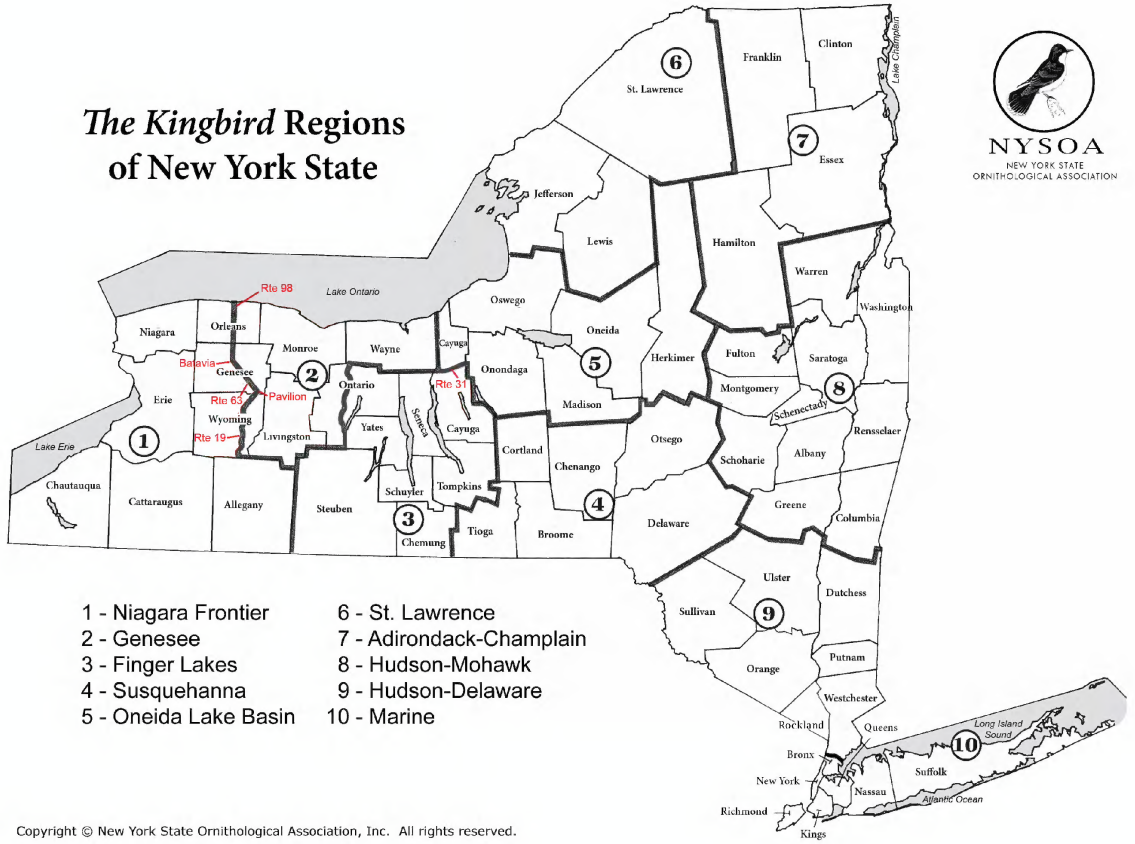
the boundary is NY Route 98 from Pt. Breeze to Batavia; NY Route 63 from Batavia to Pavilion, and NY Route 19 from Pavilion to the Allegany County line.

Region 2-Region 3 in Ontario County:

the boundary is Mud Creek to NY Route 64, NY Route 64 from Bristol Center to S. Bristol Springs, and Route 21 from S. Bristol Springs to the Yates County line.

Region 3-Region 5 in Cayuga County:

the boundary is NY Route 31.



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